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BASTIEN PIANO BASICS PIANO

LEVEL 1

BY JAMES BASTIEN

KJOS NEIL A. KJOS MUSIC COMPANY • SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

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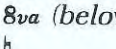
____	Cops and Robbers	*8va (below notes),* 	45			
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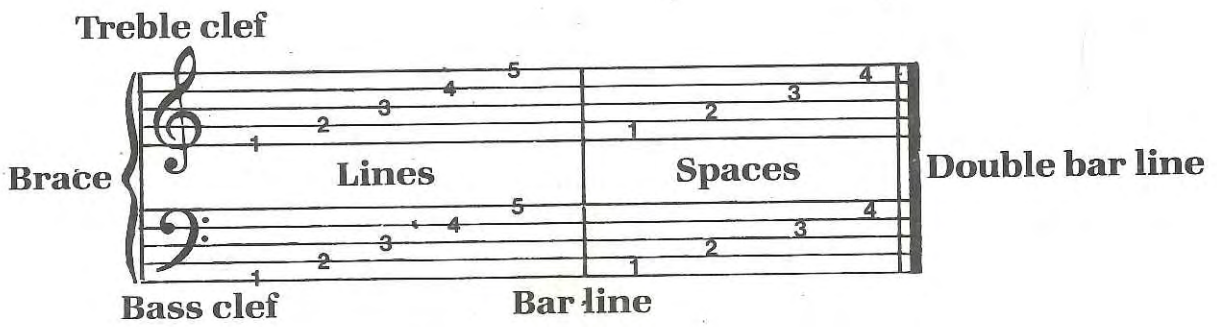
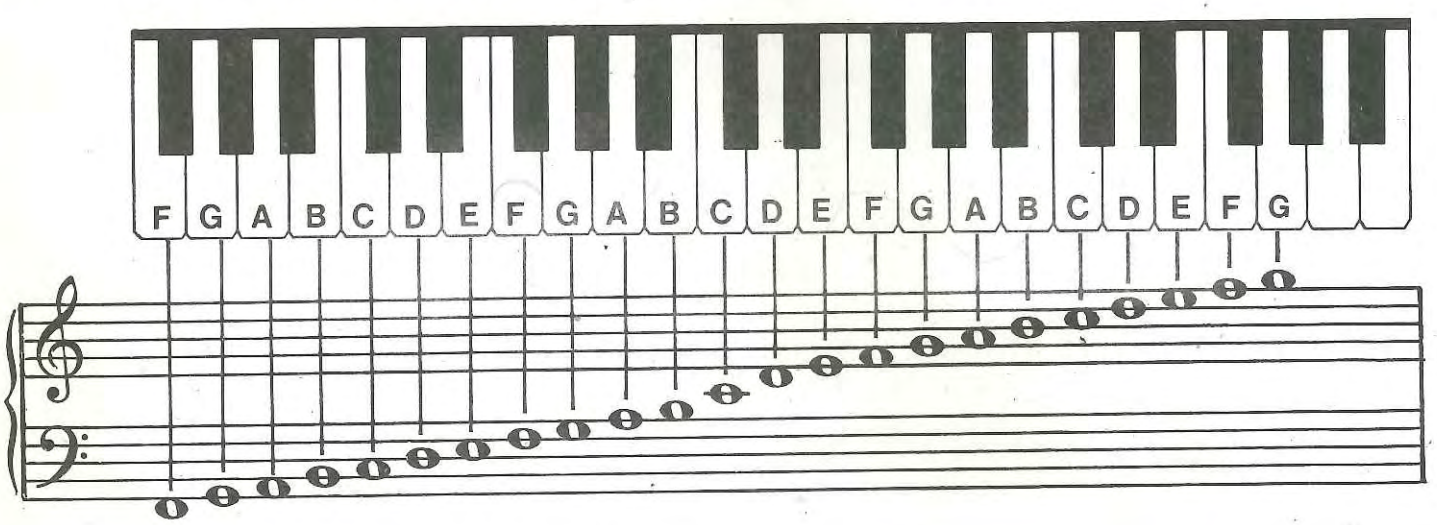
*To reinforce the feeling of achievement, the teacher or student may put a ✓ when the page has been mastered.

Reference and Review

The Grand Staff

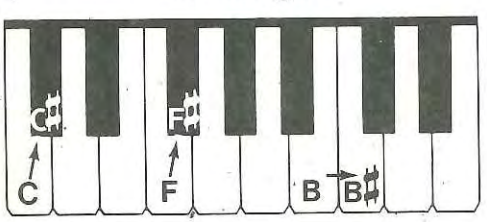


The Keyboard and Notes on the Staff

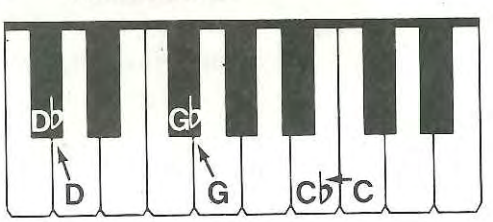


Sharps and Flats

♯ **Sharp Sign:** Play the next key to the **right.**



♭ **Flat Sign:** Play the next key to the **left.**



Time Signatures

2 means two beats in each measure.
4 means the quarter note gets one beat.

3 means three beats in each measure.
4 means the quarter note gets one beat.

4 means four beats in each measure.
4 means the quarter note gets one beat.

Note and Rest Values

Quarter	Two eighths	Half	Dotted half	Whole
Count: 1	*Count:* 1 &	*Count:* 1 2	*Count:* 1 2 3	*Count:* 1 2 3 4

Intervals

2nd
line - space space - line

3rd
line - line space - space

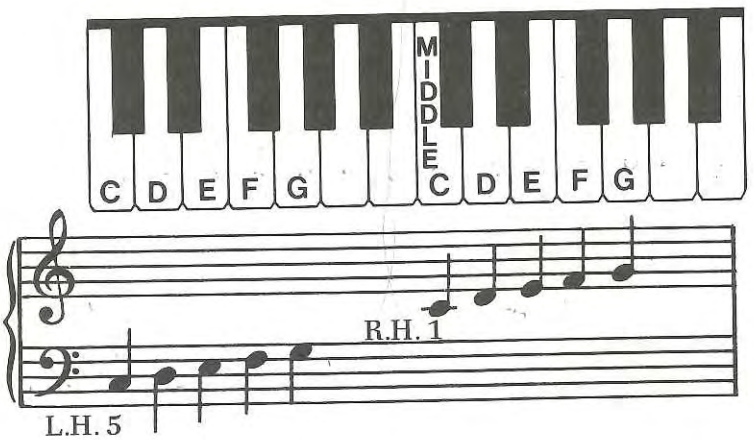
4th
line - space space - line

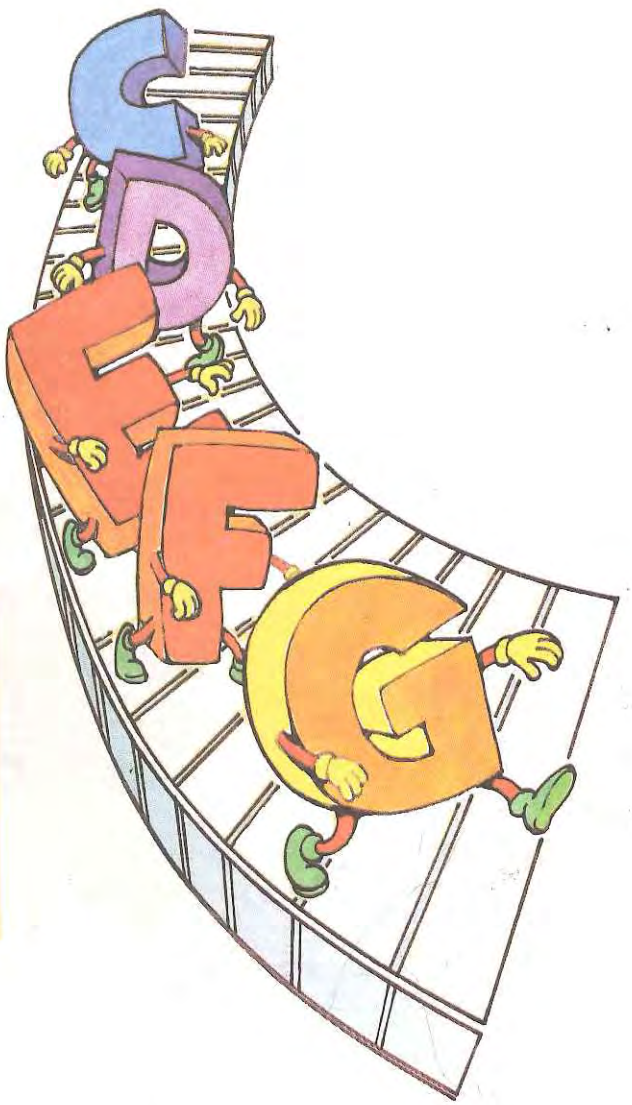
5th
line - line space - space

Signs and Terms

f	**Forte**	Play loud.
p	**Piano**	Play soft.
	Legato	Play smooth and connected.
	Staccato	Play short and separated.
	Slur	Play legato.
	Tie	Connects notes of the same name for their combined value.
	Repeat sign	Play again from the beginning.

C Major Position

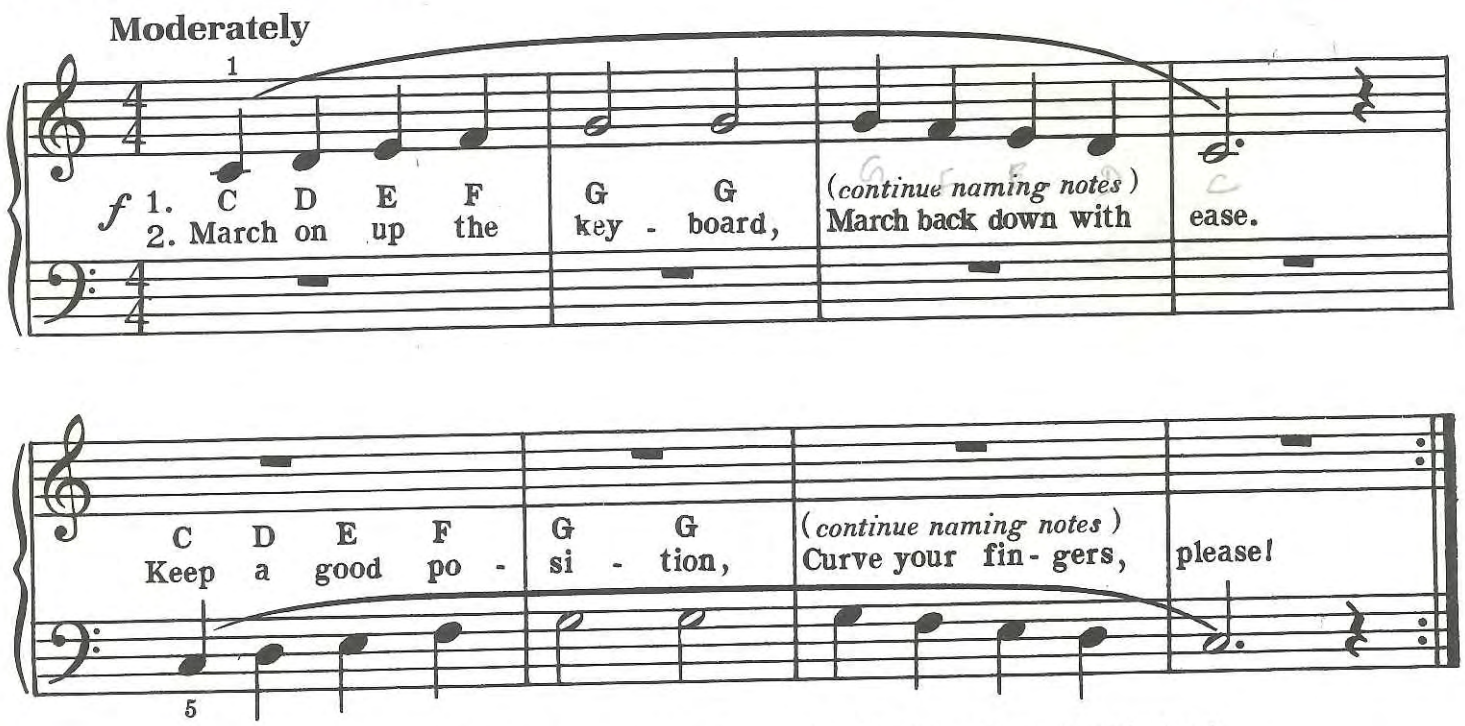




Practice Directions*

1. Clap and count the rhythm aloud.
2. Find the position for both hands.
3. Keep your eyes on the book while playing.
4. Play and say (or sing) the note names.
5. Play again and count the rhythm aloud.
6. Play again and sing the words.

March On!

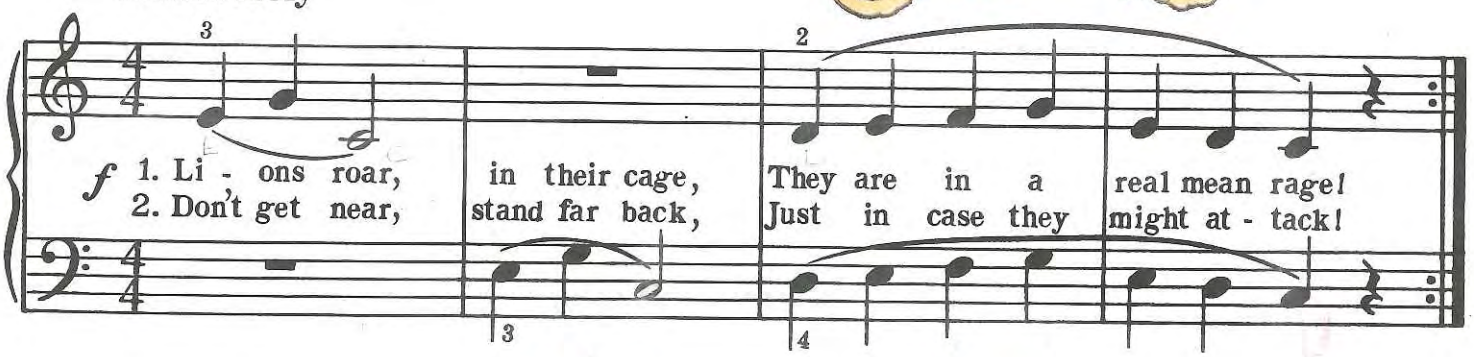


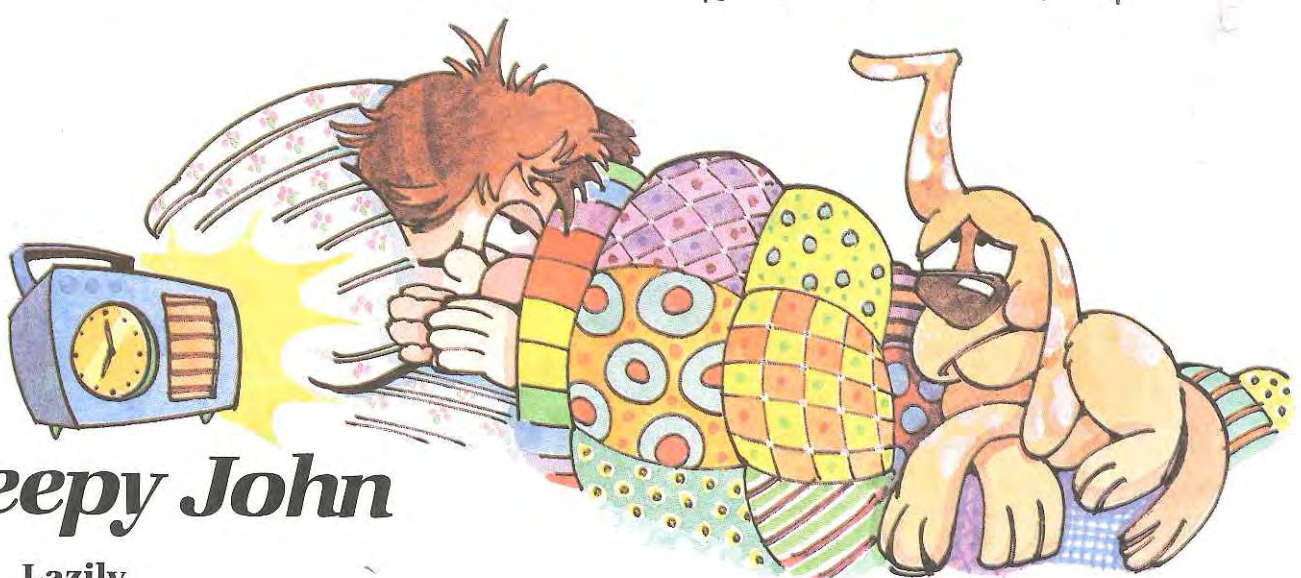
*Teacher: The student is to follow similar practice directions throughout the book.

★ Name the intervals used in these pieces.

Roaring Lions

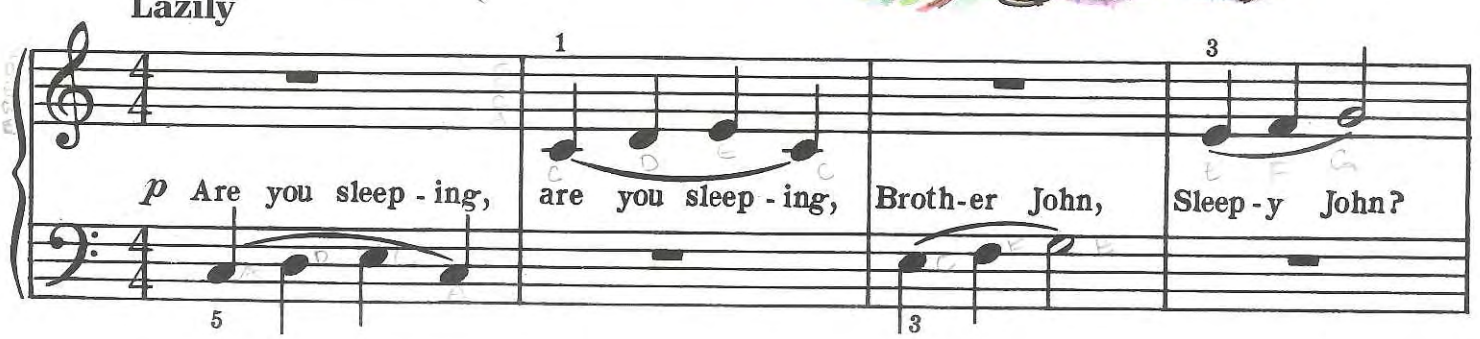
Moderately

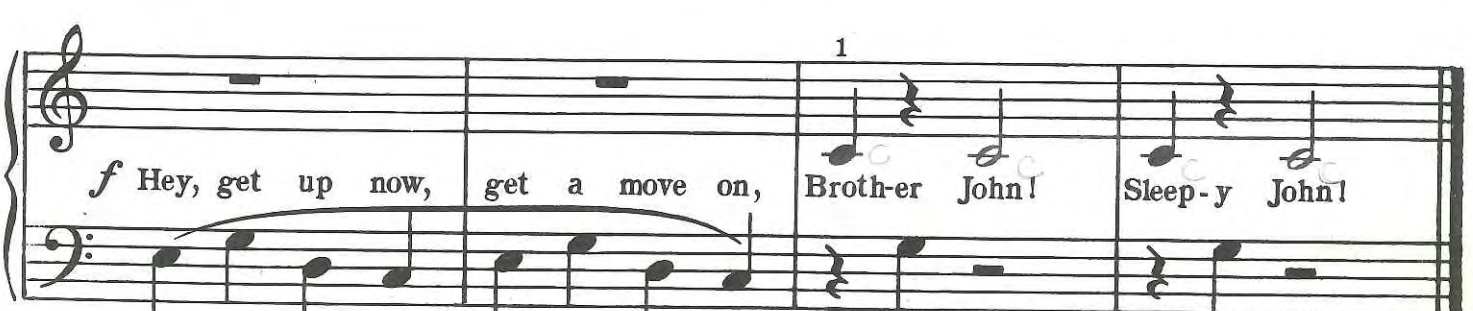




Sleepy John

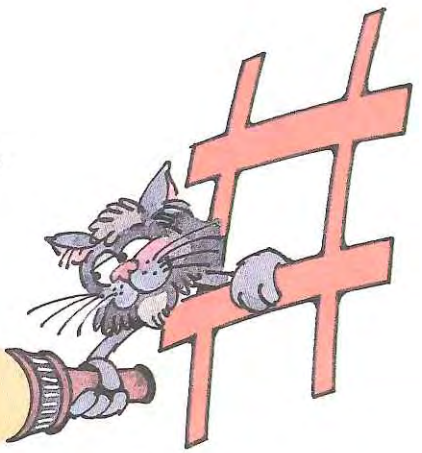
Lazily





♯ Sharp

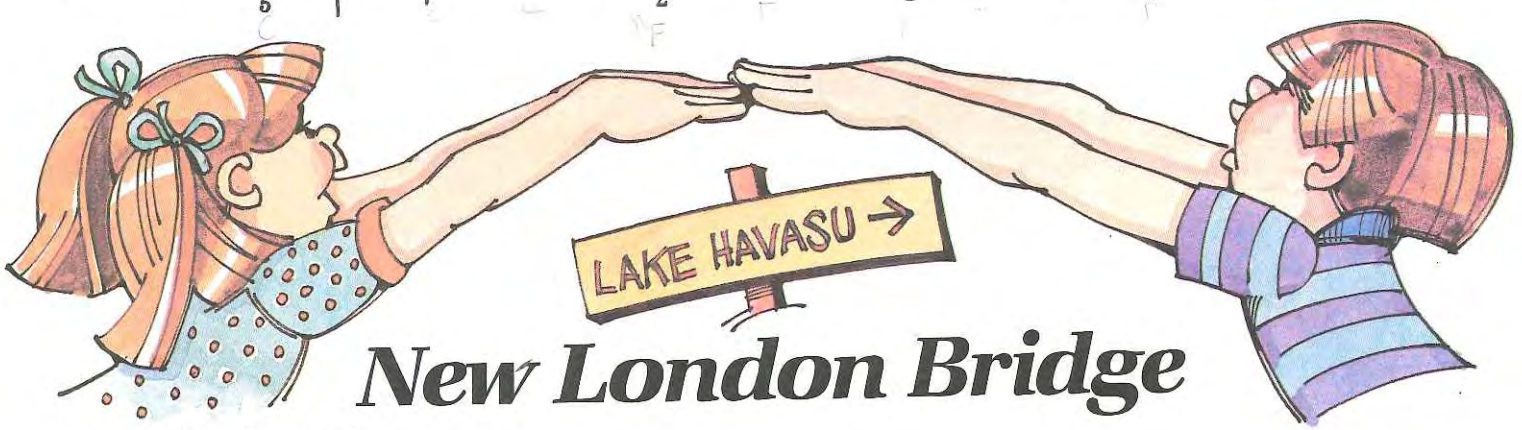
The sharp sign means to play the next key to the **right.**
The sharp lasts for the whole measure!



Tomcat

Sneakily

p 1. See the tom - cat prowl - ing, In the dark of night.
f 2. He is out there hunt - ing, 'Til the new day's light!



New London Bridge

Moderately

p Lon - don Bridge has now been moved, Ev - 'ry stone, it is true.

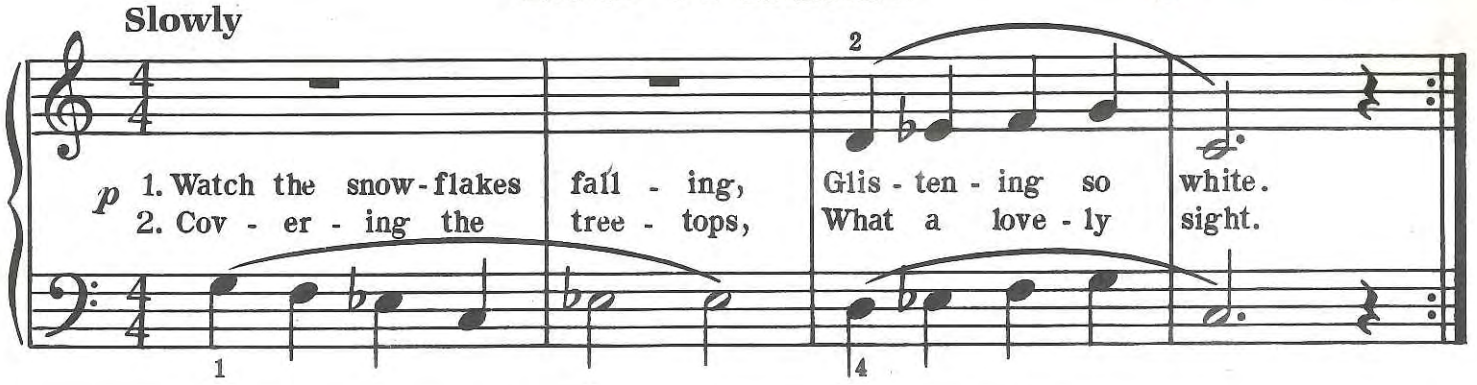
f See it in the U. S. A., At Lake Hav - a - su!

Note: The London Bridge was moved to Lake Havasu, Arizona, in 1971.

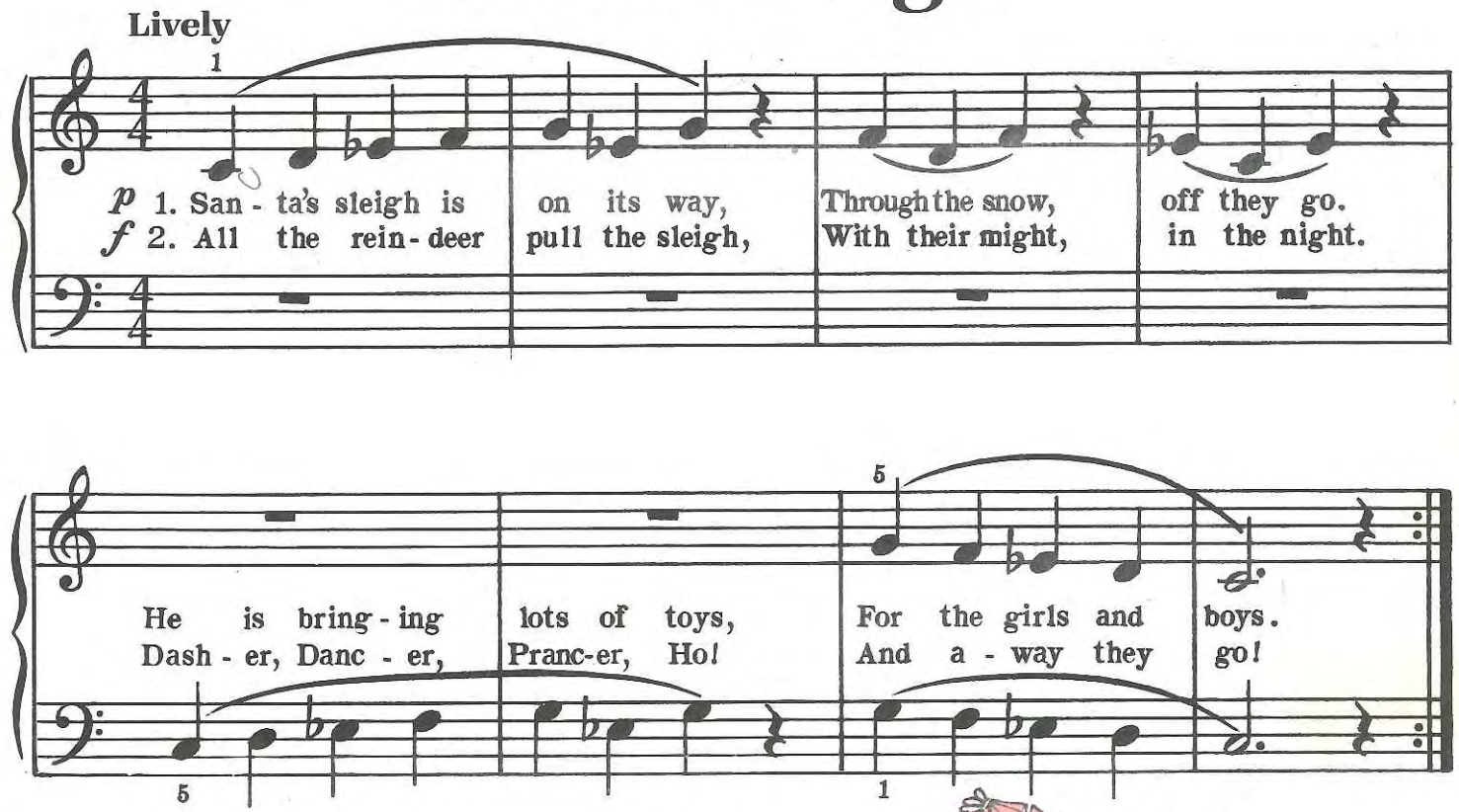
♭ Flat

The flat sign means to play the next key to the **left**.
The flat lasts for the whole measure!

It's Winter



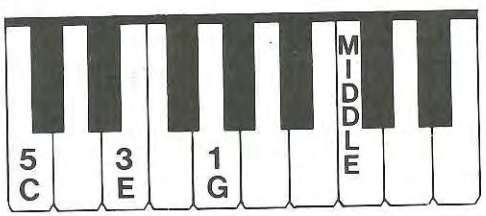
Santa's Sleigh



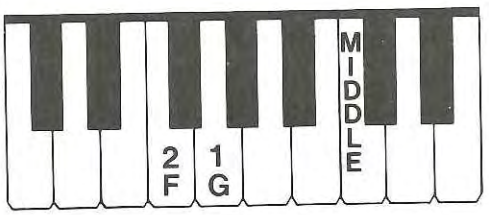
Accompaniment in C

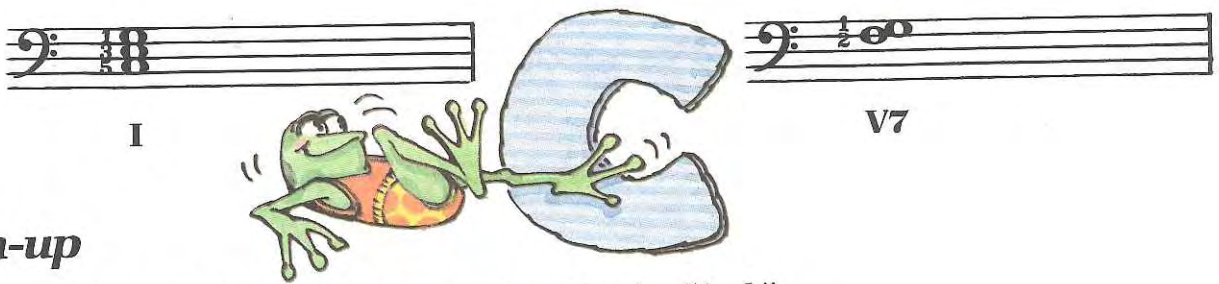
Chords are often used to form the **accompaniment** for melodies. The two chords most often used are the I (one) chord and the V7 (five-seven) chord.*

The I chord is formed from **three** notes in a 5-finger position.



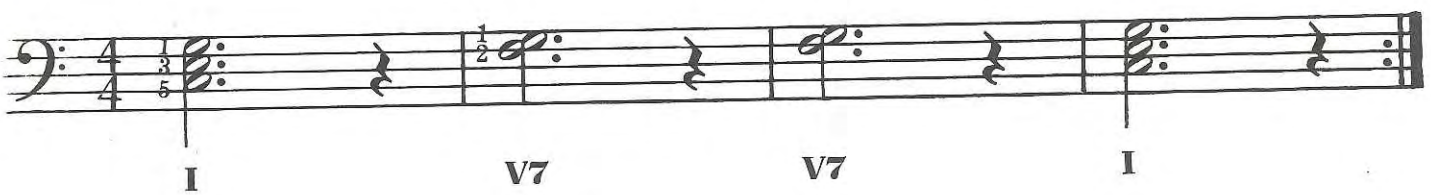
The V7 chord sound is formed from **two** notes in a 5-finger position.*





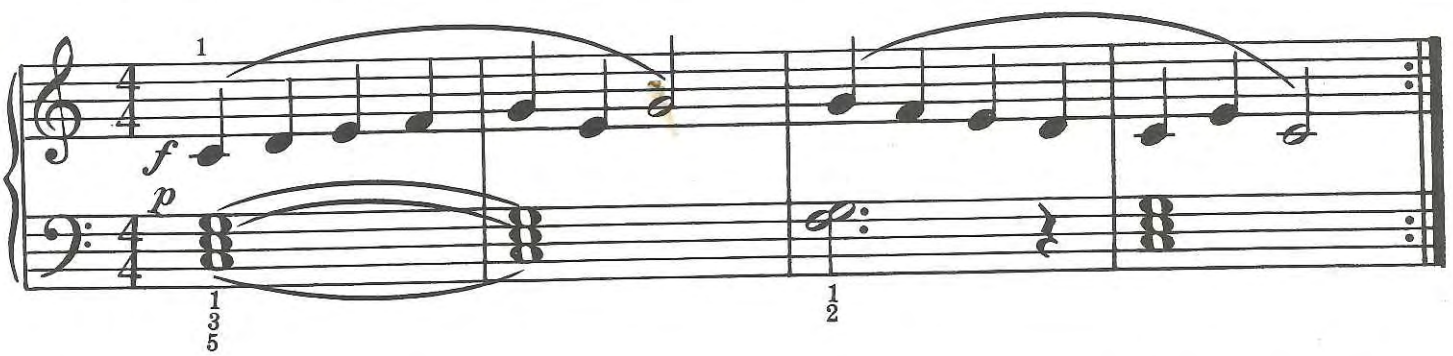
Warm-up

Practice these L.H. chords in C Major. Play by "feel," without looking at your hand for the chord changes.



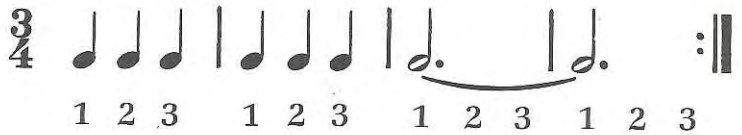
Melody and Accompaniment

The melody should always sing above the accompaniment. Play the accompaniment **softer** than the melody for the correct balance.



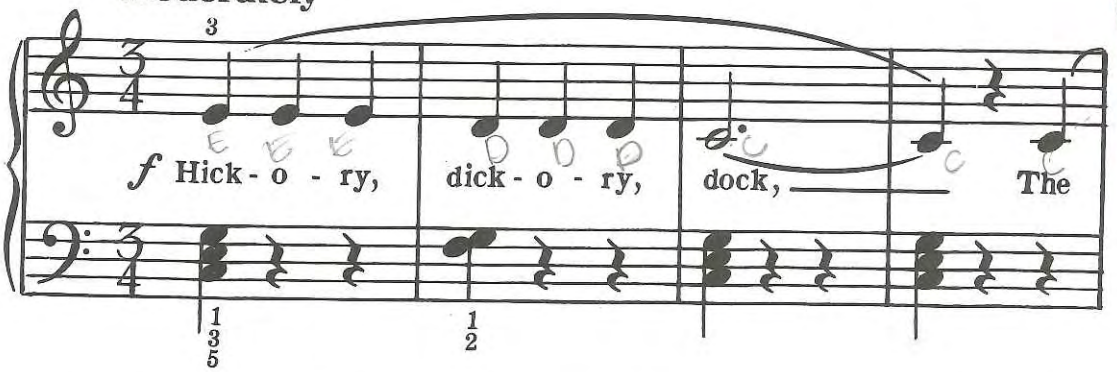
*Teacher: The interval of a 2nd represents the dominant harmony at this level. In Level 2, the three-note V7 chord is introduced and explained in detail.

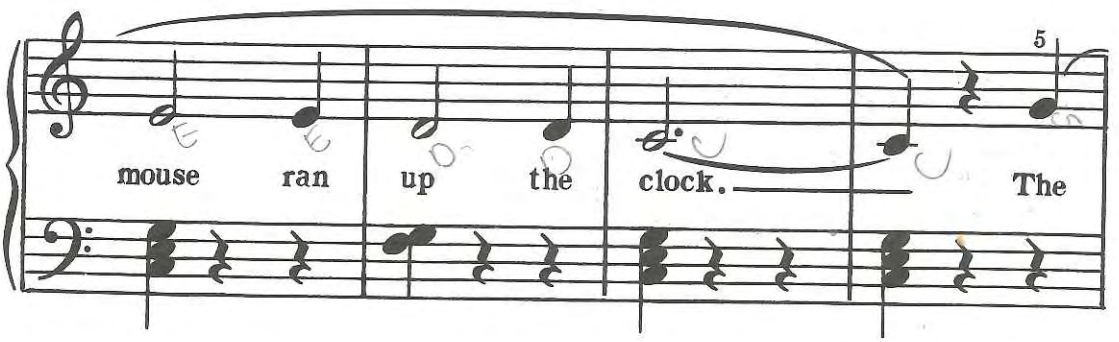
★ Clap and count this rhythm:

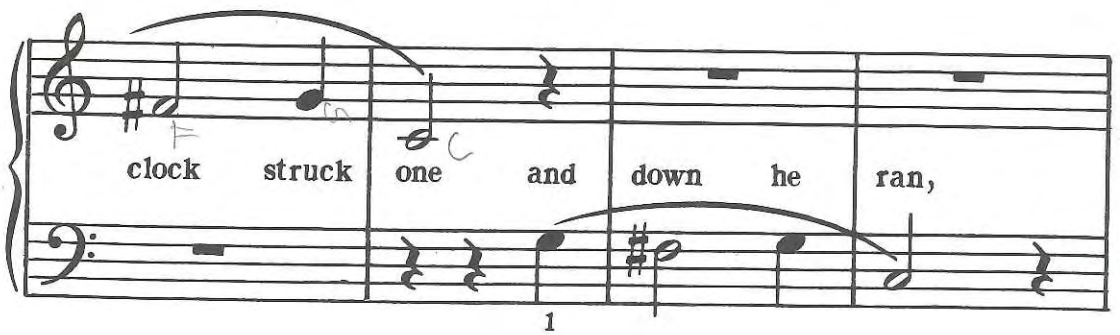


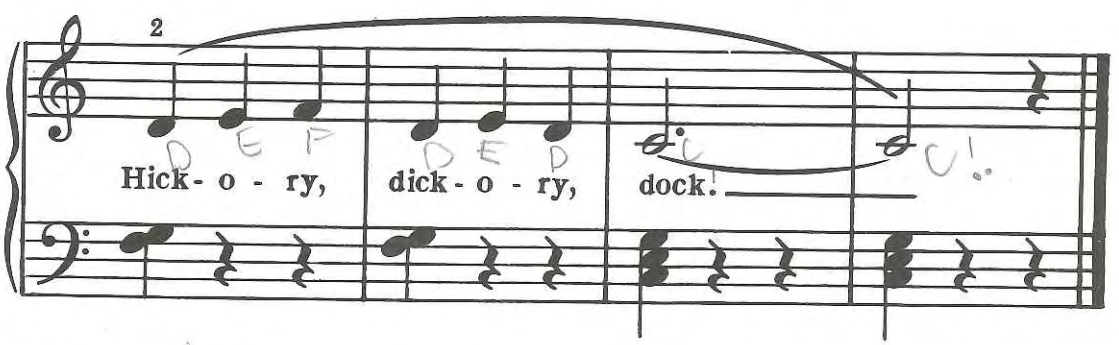
Run, Mouse, Run!

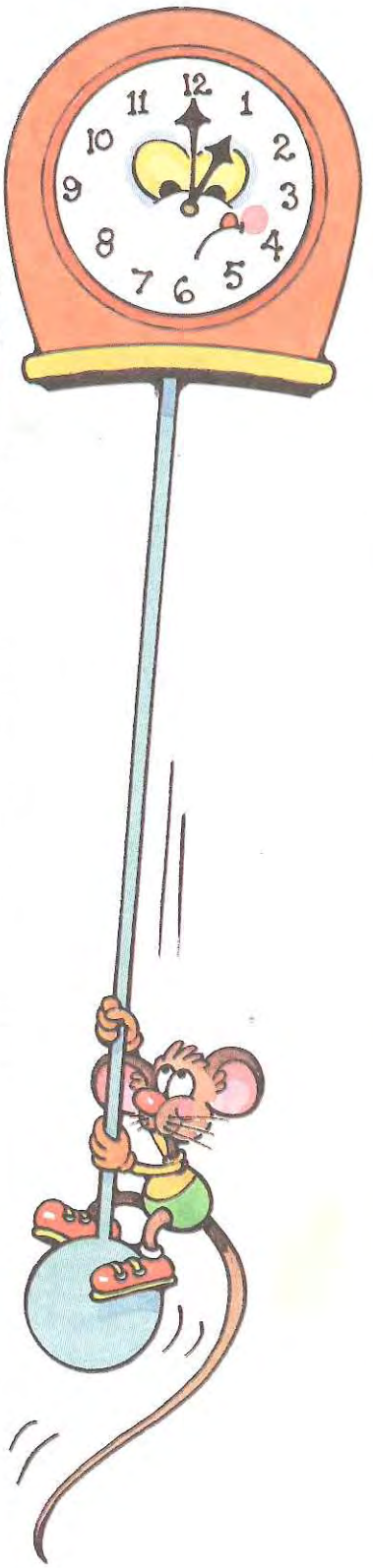
Moderately



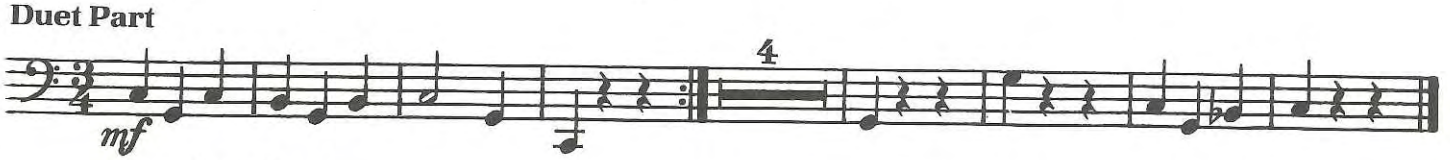








Duet Part



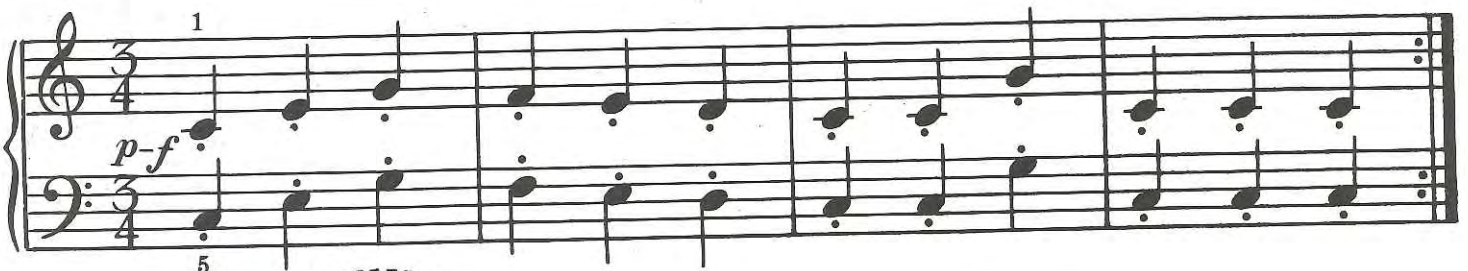
8va throughout

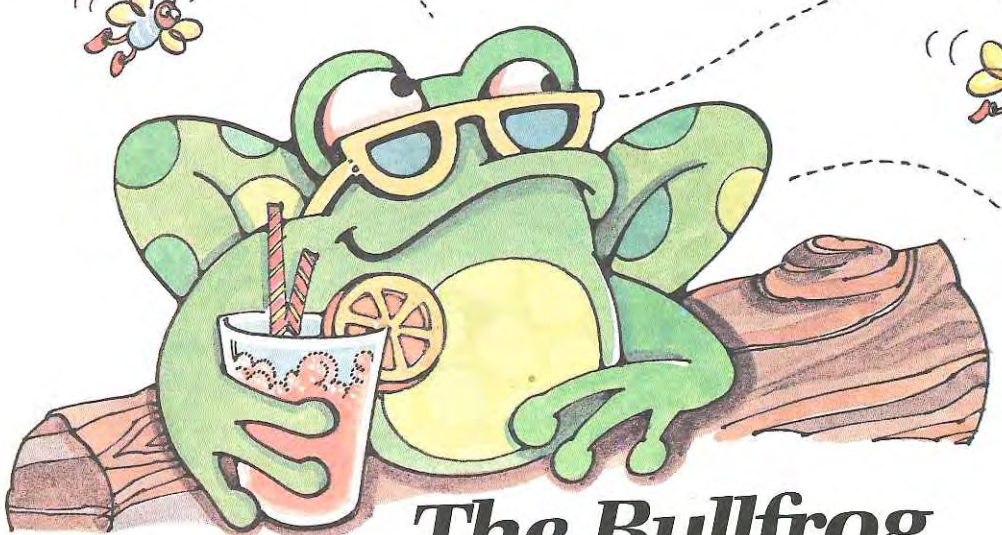
Staccato

Play short and separated.

Warm-up

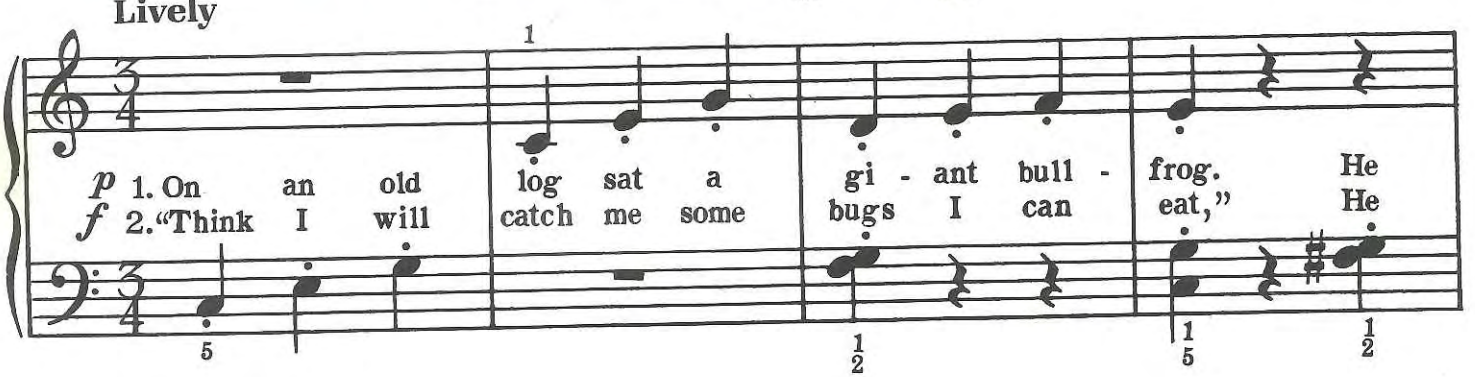
Play hands separately first.

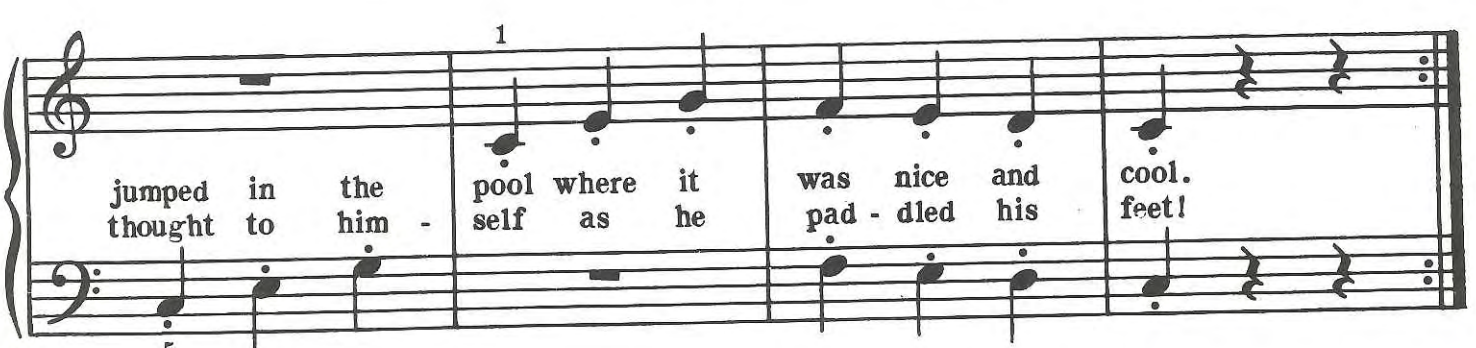


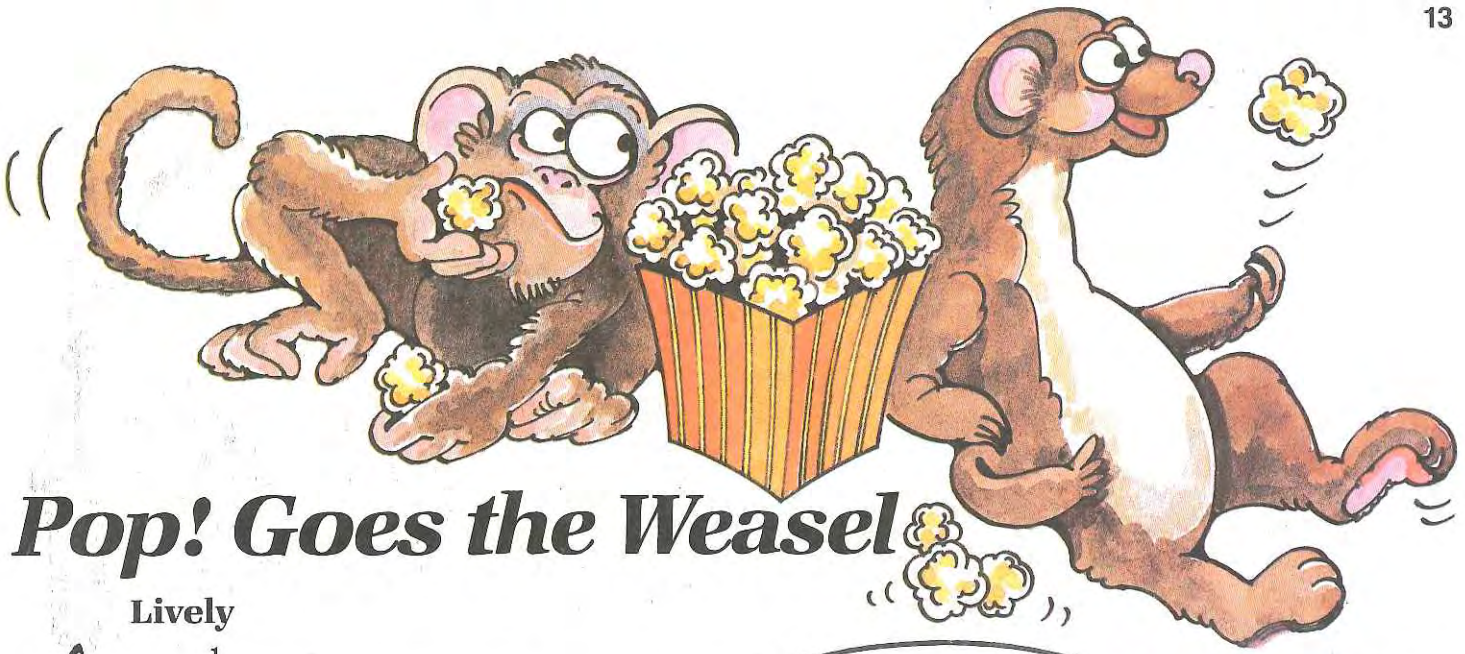


The Bullfrog

Lively







Pop! Goes the Weasel

Lively

p All a - round the cob - bler's bench, the

mon - key chased the wea - sel. The

mon - key thought 'twas all in fun.

l. h.
over

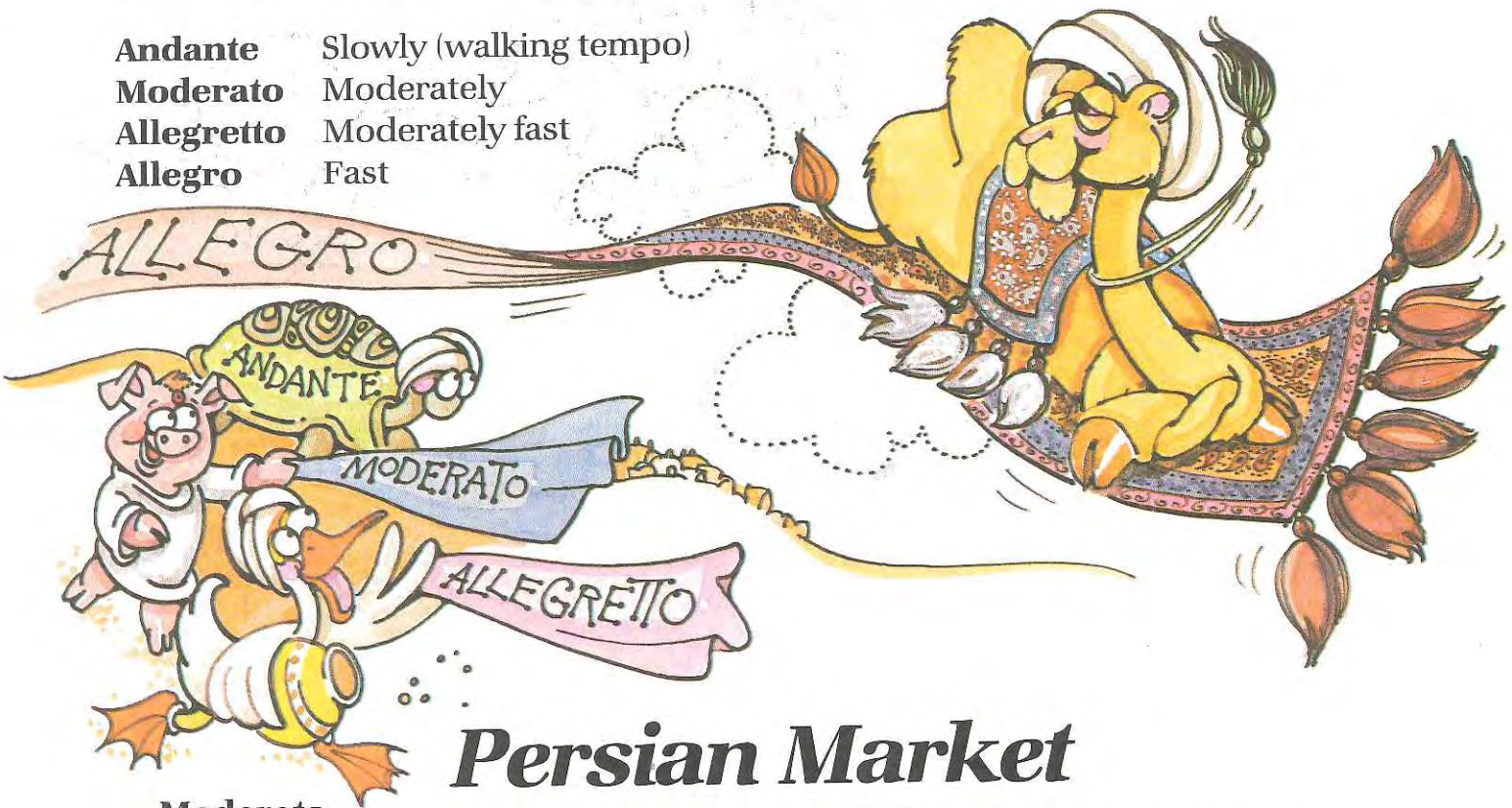
f Pop! goes the wea - sel.

Tempo Marks

Tempo marks are placed at the beginning of a piece to tell the rate of speed at which a piece is to be played. Tempo marks usually are in Italian.

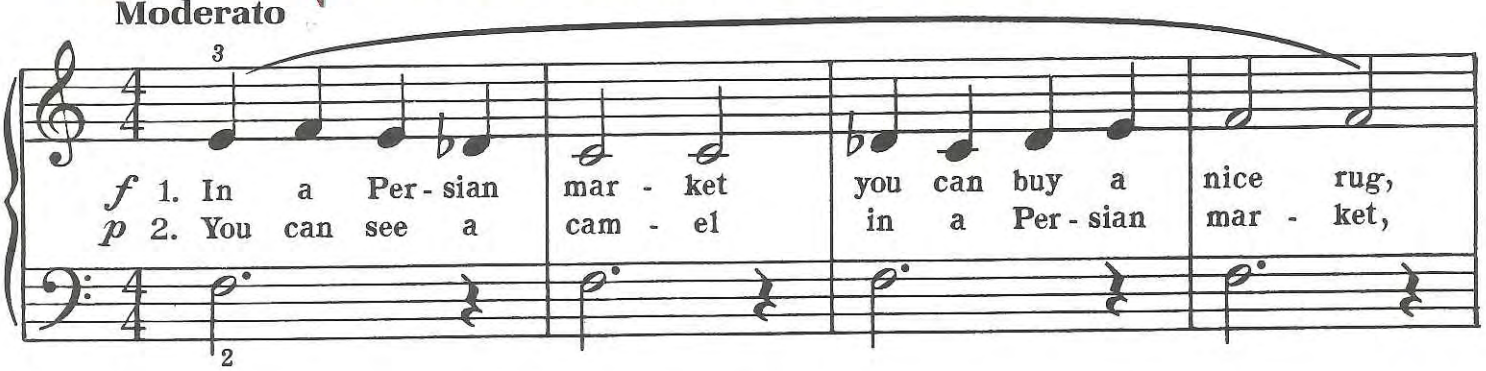
These tempo marks, listed from slow to fast, are the most common.

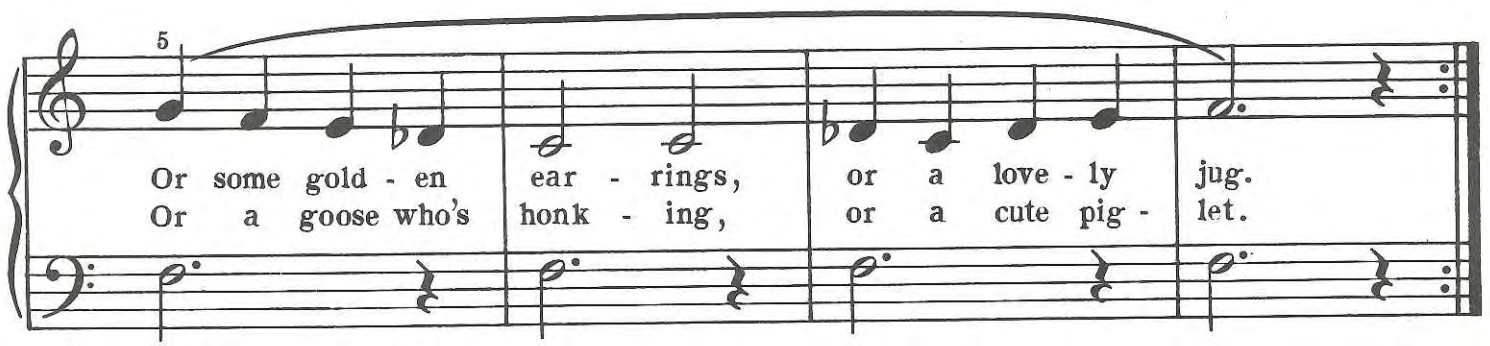
Andante	Slowly (walking tempo)
Moderato	Moderately
Allegretto	Moderately fast
Allegro	Fast



Persian Market

Moderato



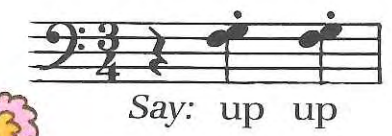


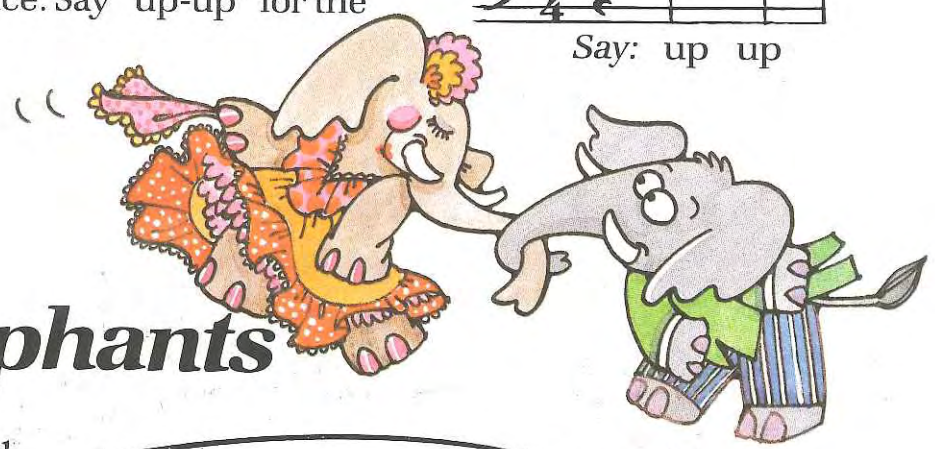
When you have learned this piece as written, you might want to try this L.H. part.

continue

Staccato Accompaniment

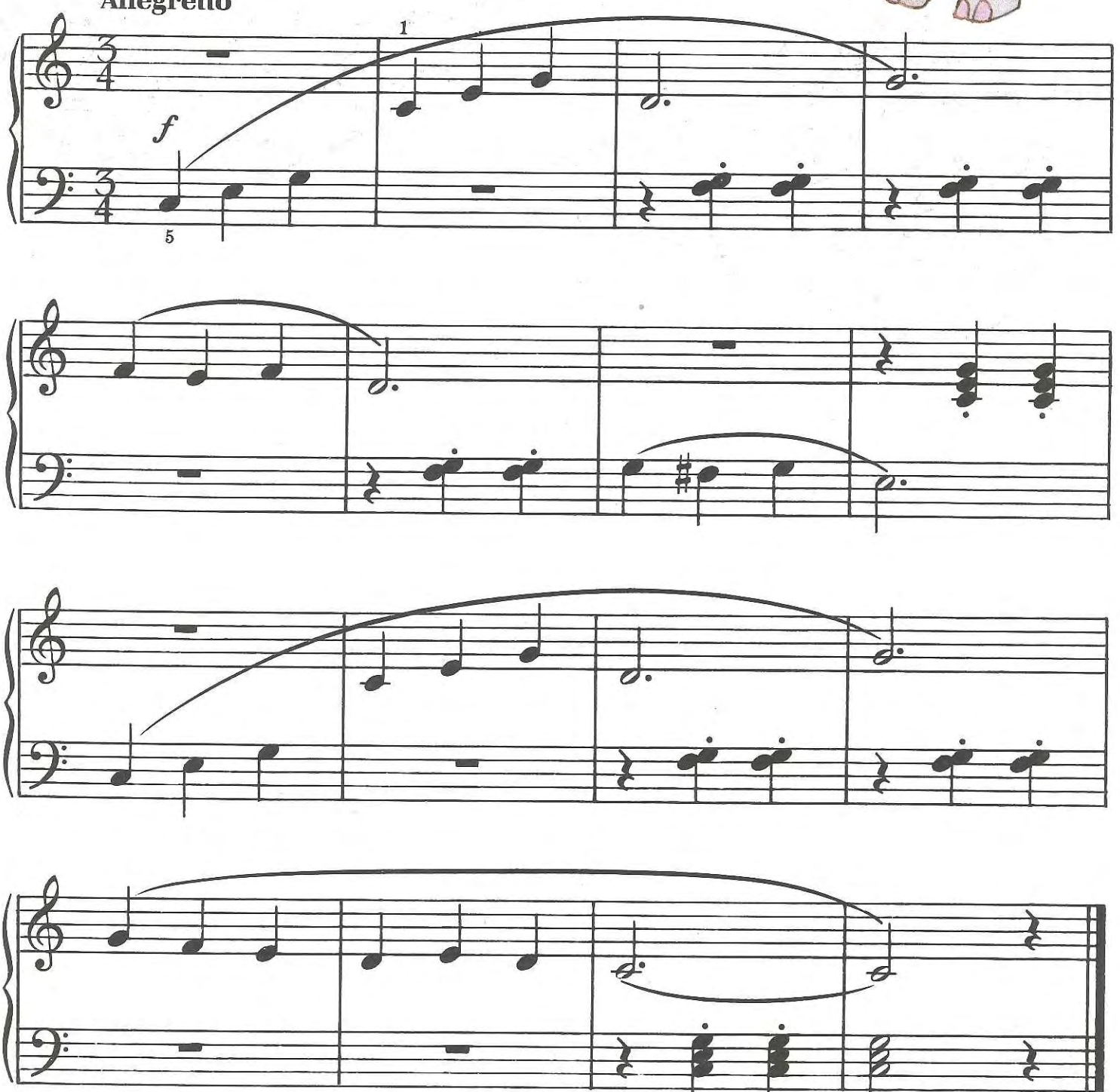
Play the melody clearly. Play the staccato notes **lightly** for the correct balance. Say "up-up" for the staccato notes.





Waltzing Elephants

Allegretto

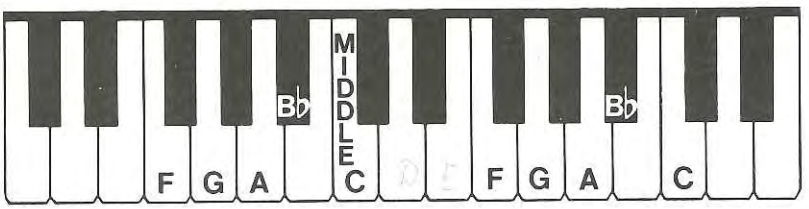


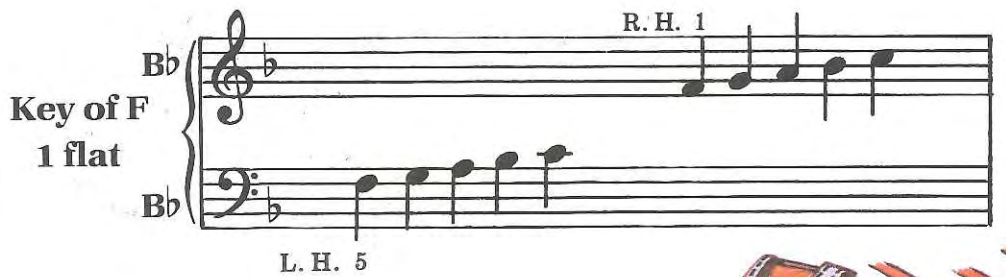
Key Signature

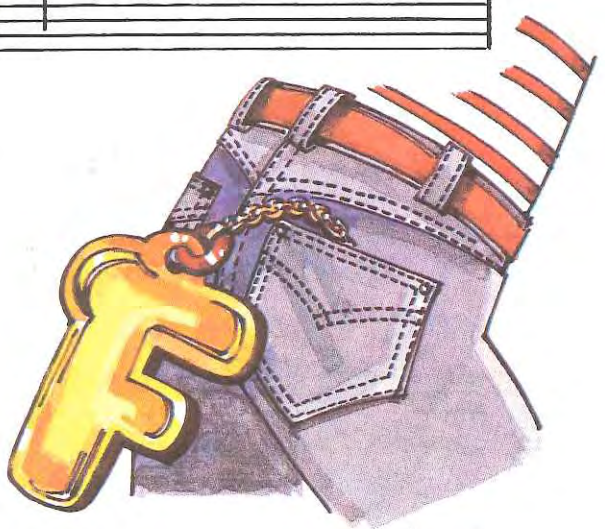
The key signature is the sharps or flats at the beginning of each staff. It tells you:

1. notes to be sharp or flat in the piece, and
2. the main tonality, or **key**, of the piece.

F Major Position



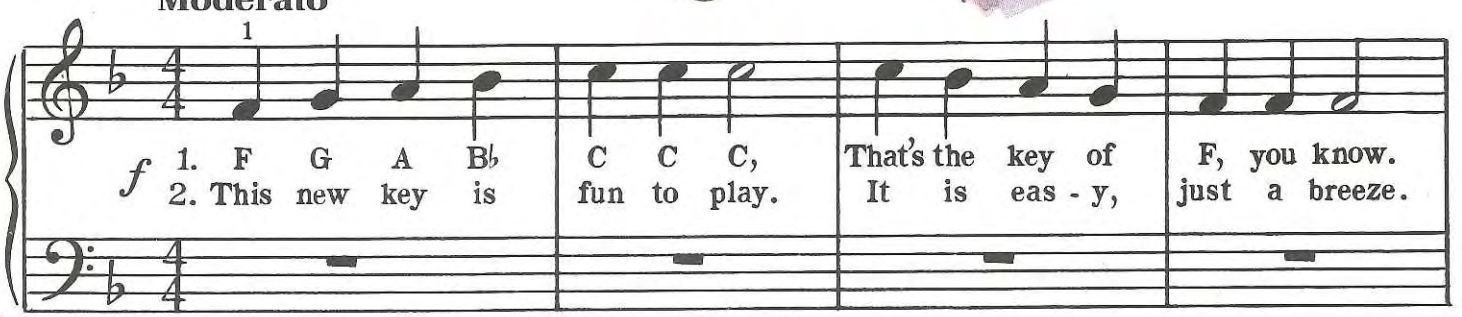


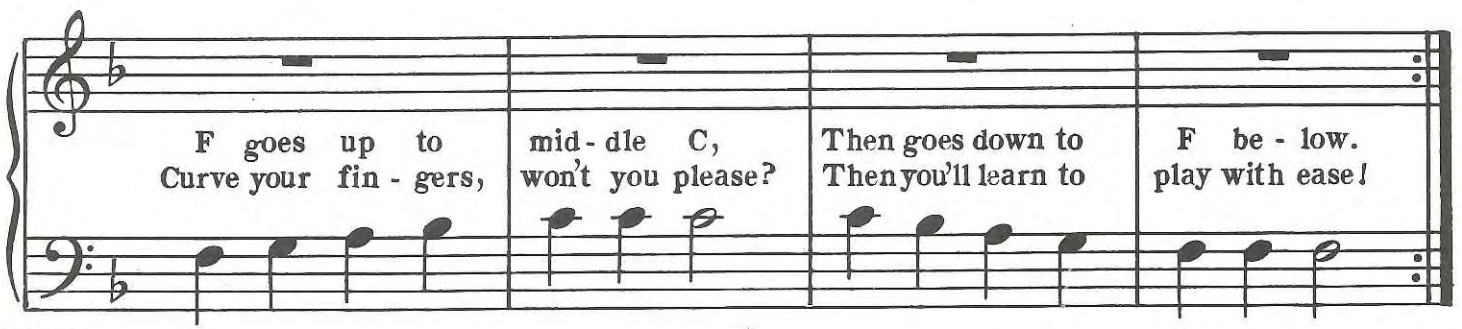


My New Key

Key of F

Moderato



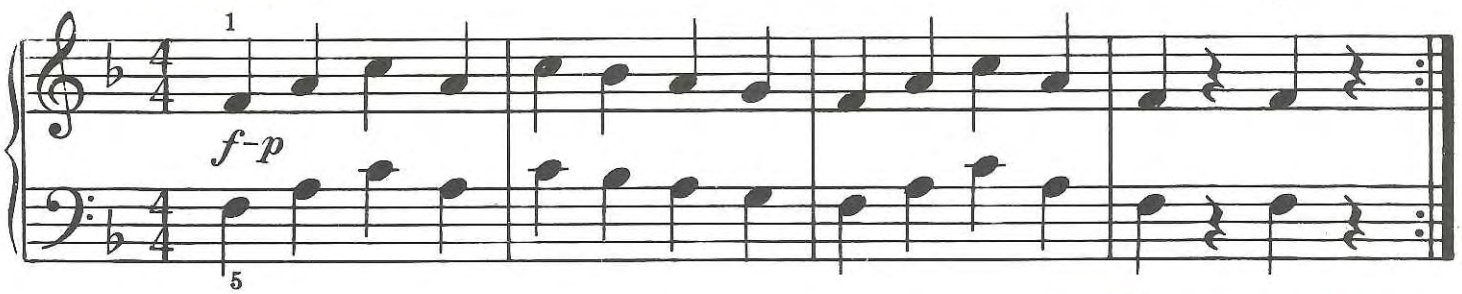


Warm-up

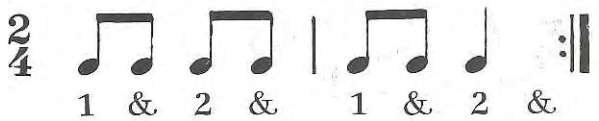
Play hands separately first. Play legato. Repeat, and play staccato.
f-p means to play first time *forte*, second time *piano*.

Key of _____

Moderato



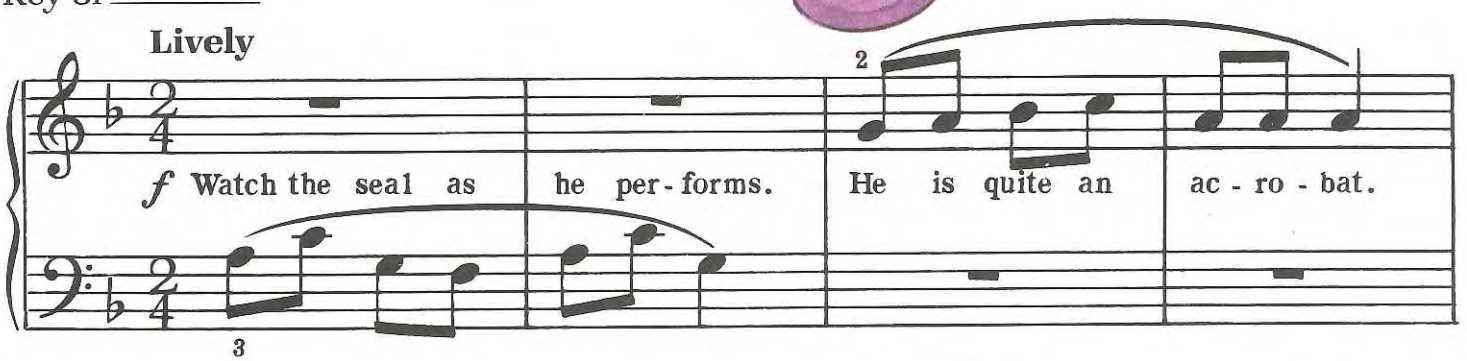
★ Clap and count this rhythm.

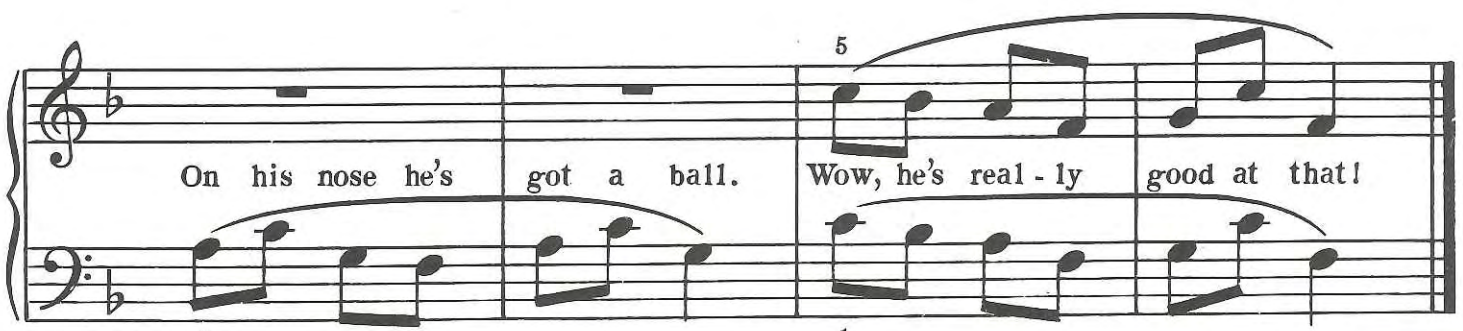


The Happy Seal

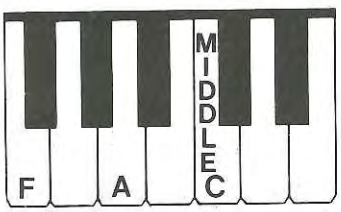
Key of _____

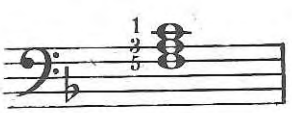
Lively



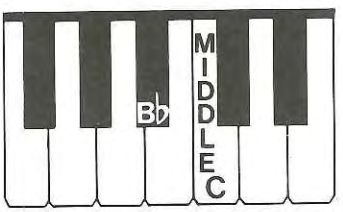


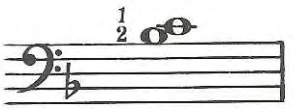
Accompaniment in F



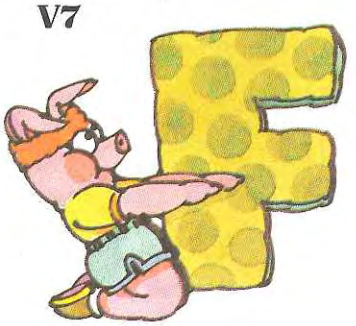


I



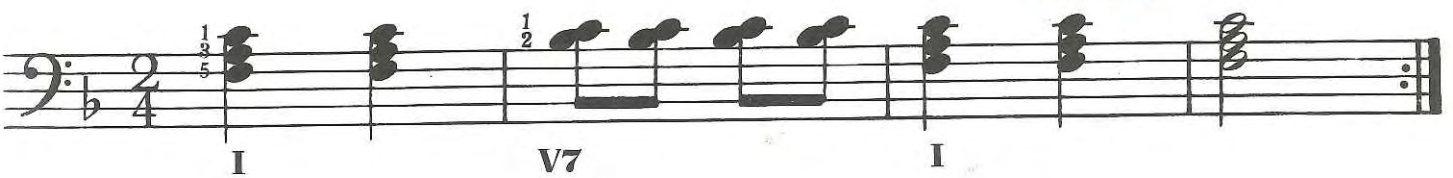


V7



Warm-up

Practice these L.H. chords in F Major. Play by "feel," without looking at your hand for the chord changes.

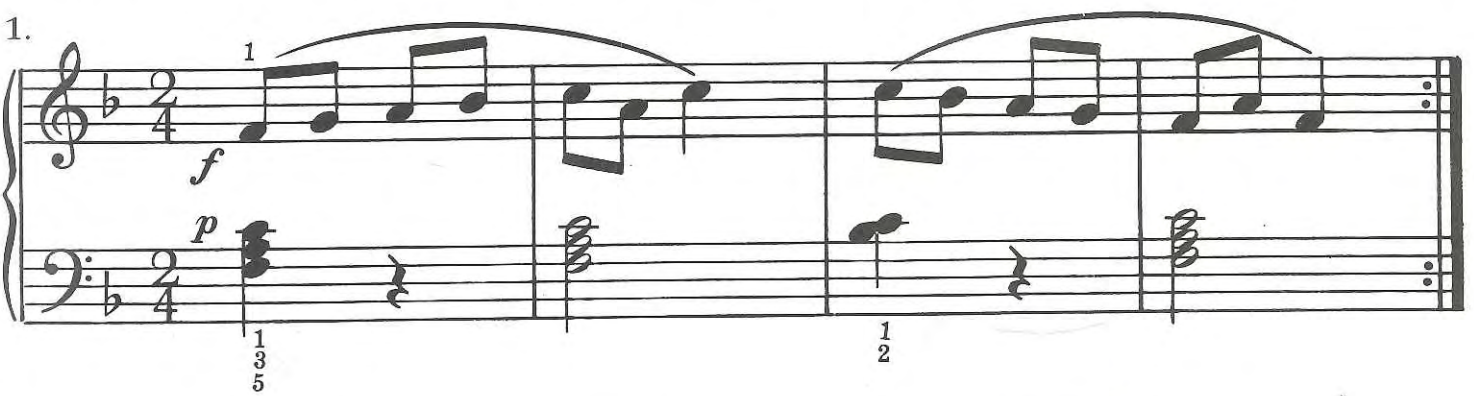


I V7 I

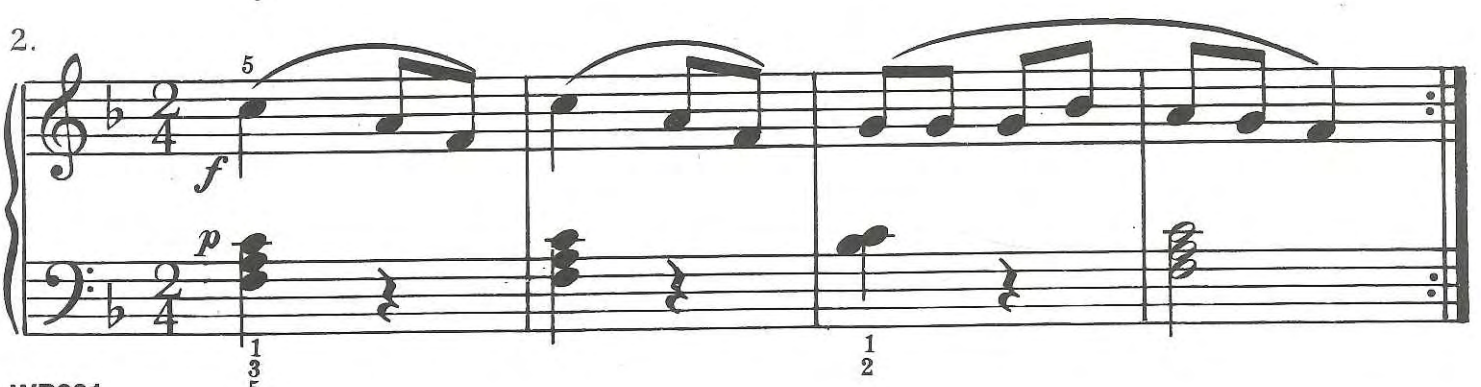
Melody and Accompaniment

Play the accompaniment **softer** than the melody for the correct balance.

1.



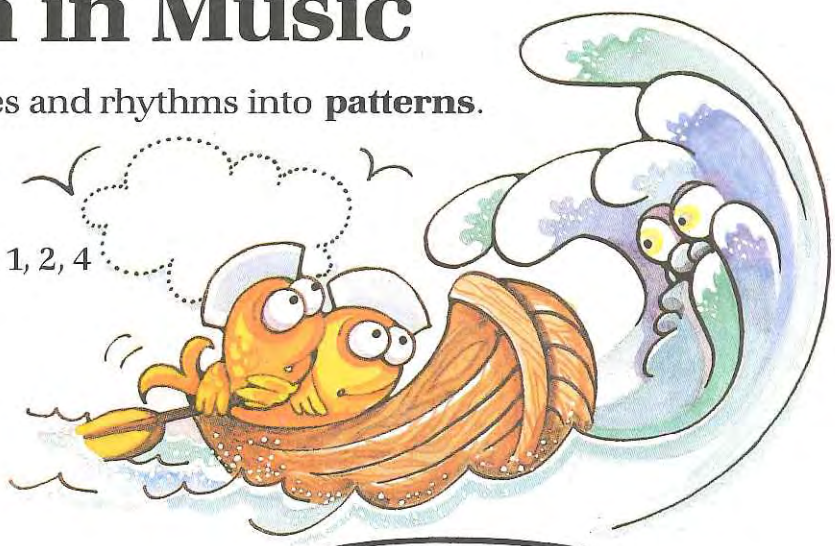
2.



Form in Music

Music form is the arrangement of notes and rhythms into **patterns**.

The form of this piece is:
same (or **similar**) patterns: Lines 1, 2, 4
different pattern: Line 3



Bravery at Sea

Moderato

p In our boat we will float, On the roll - ing waves we go.

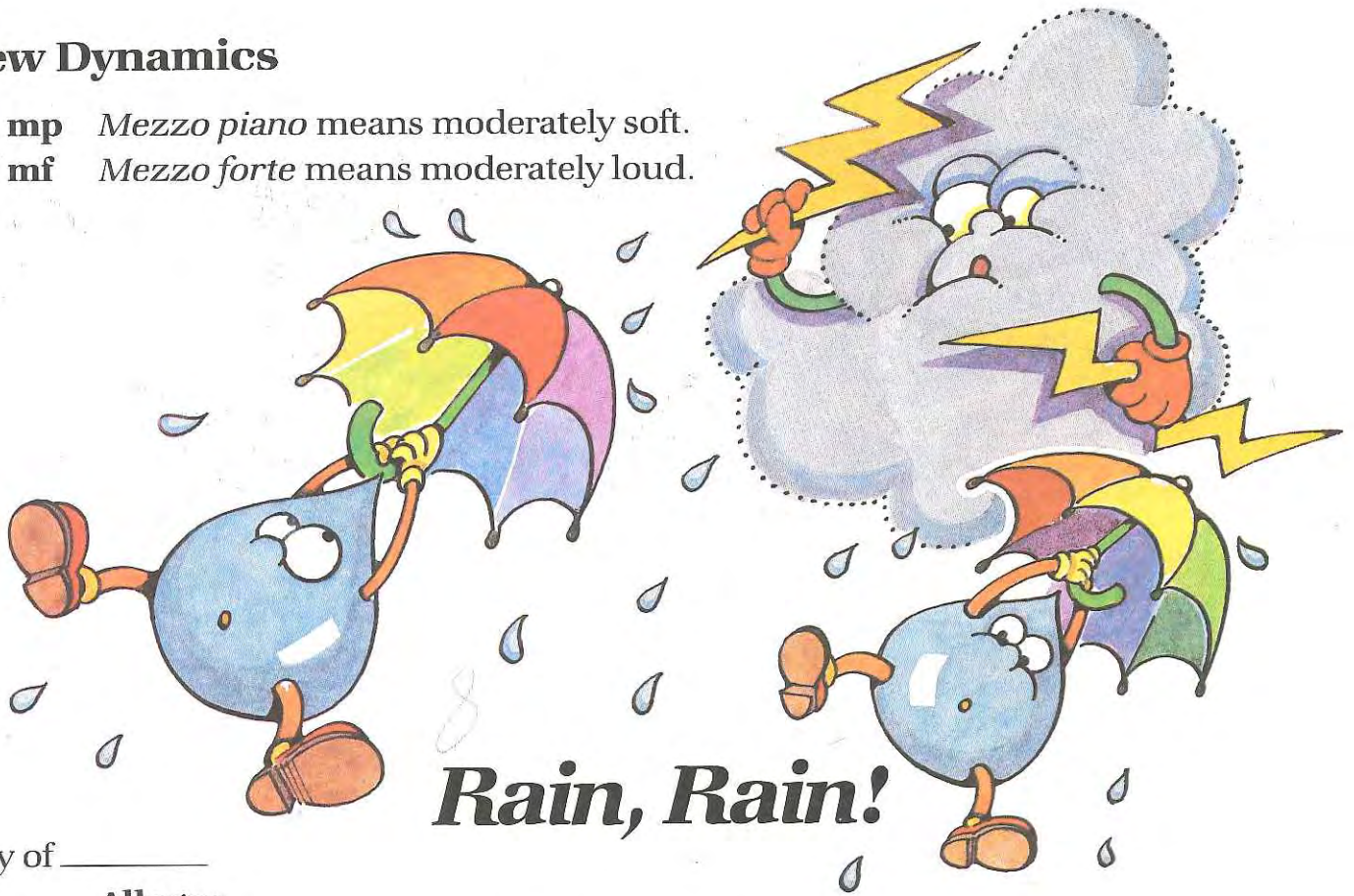
What a ride we will have, Sway - ing to and fro!

f Look out for that big old wave! Whew, that was a real close shave!

p In our boat as we roll, We must be quite brave!

New Dynamics

mp *Mezzo piano* means moderately soft.
mf *Mezzo forte* means moderately loud.



Rain, Rain!

Key of _____

Allegro

mp 1. Pit - ter pat - ter, rain-drops fall-ing Down on Brett and me.
mf 2. Pit - ter pat - ter, what's the mat - ter? We're all wet, you see!

f Thun-der, light-ning all a - round us, It is mak - ing quite a big fuss!

mf Pit - ter pat - ter, it's quite rain - y, We're all wet, you see!

Which lines are the same or similar?
Which line is different?

Sing, Bird, Sing

Key of _____

Moderato

p Lis - ten to the bird in the tree sing.

Way up there its song does ring.

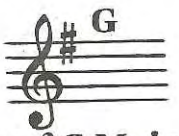
f What a fine voice, now don't you a - gree?

p Sing - ing, sing - ing, just to please me!

Sharp Key Signatures

Sharp key signatures may be discovered by

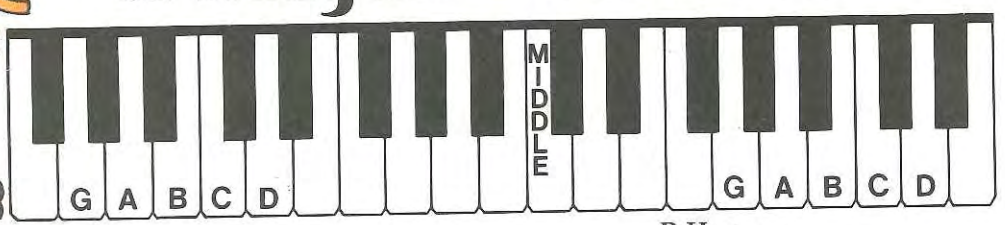
1. naming the last sharp,
   then
2. naming the next letter in the music alphabet
   (the name of the next note above the last sharp).

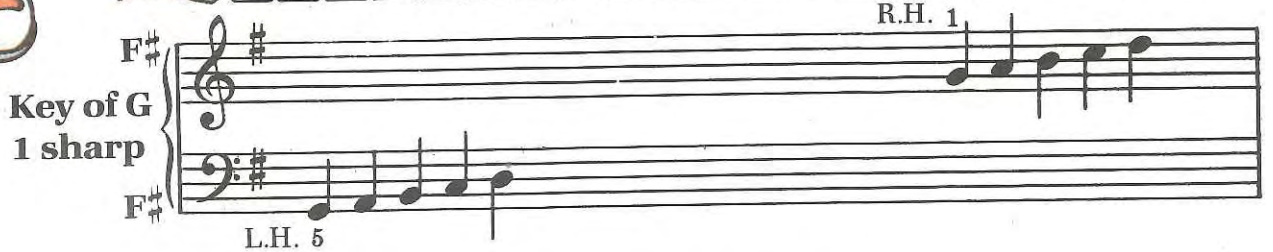


Key of G Major

Note: Although F♯ is *not* used in the 5-finger position, F♯ must be written on the staff to indicate the key of G. Any F's would be played F♯.

G Major Position

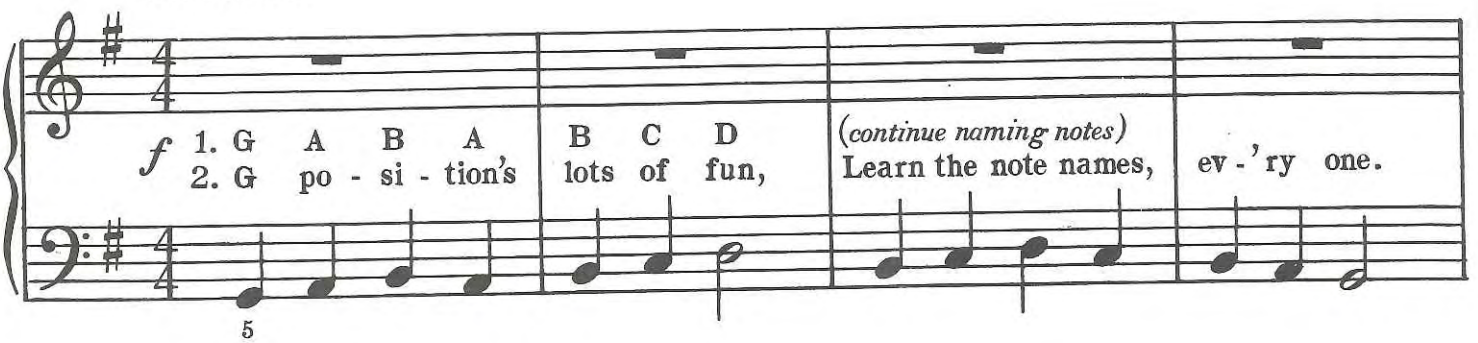


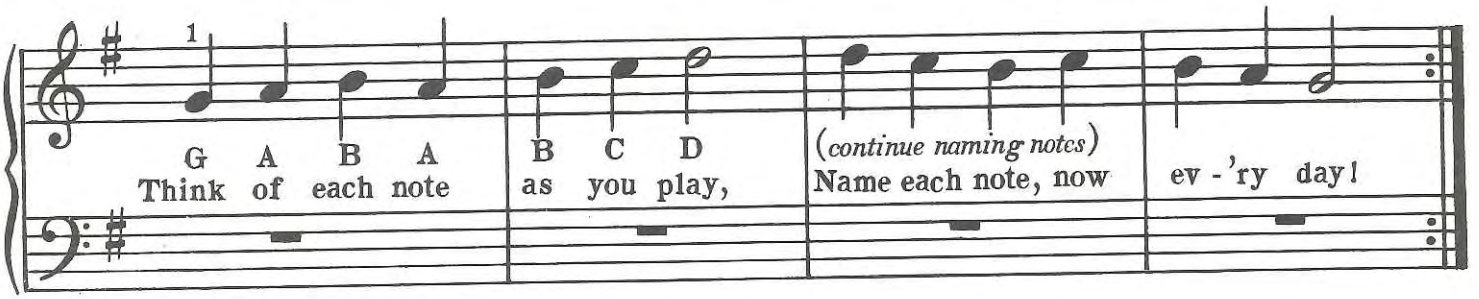


Gee Whiz

Key of G

Moderato





Which lines are the same or similar?
Which line is different? *

Bugle Call

Key of _____

Lively

f Lis - ten to the bu - gle play, call - ing ev - 'ry one.

Get up now, jump out of bed, up be - fore the sun.

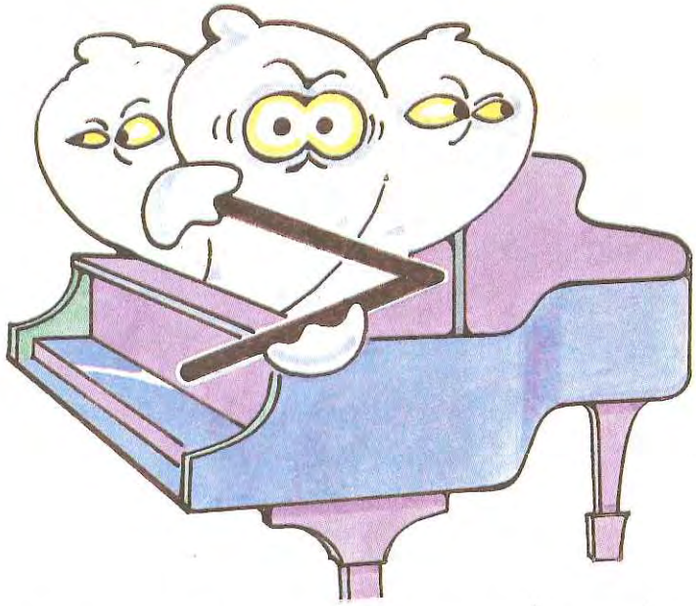
Ear - ly ris - ers, off you go. We'll have lots of fun! Oh!

Get up now, jump out of bed, up be - fore the sun.

*Teacher: Have the student continue to analyze the form of new pieces in this manner.

Accent Sign

> or ♩ means to play the note or notes **louder.**



Spooks!

Allegretto

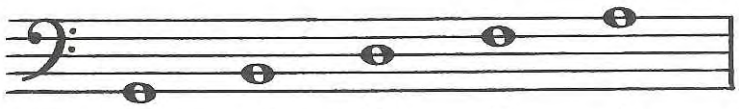
f Spooks jump out to haunt you! They will try to taunt you!

What a spook - y night! Gives me such a fright!

p Look off to your left. Look off to your right.

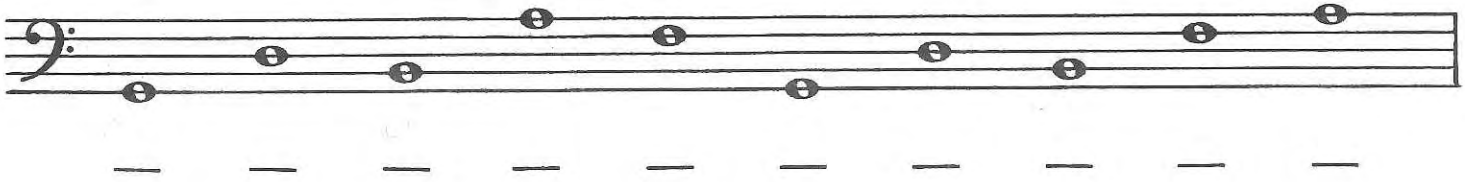
f Spooks jump out to haunt you! What a spook - y night!

Bass Clef Note-Naming Game

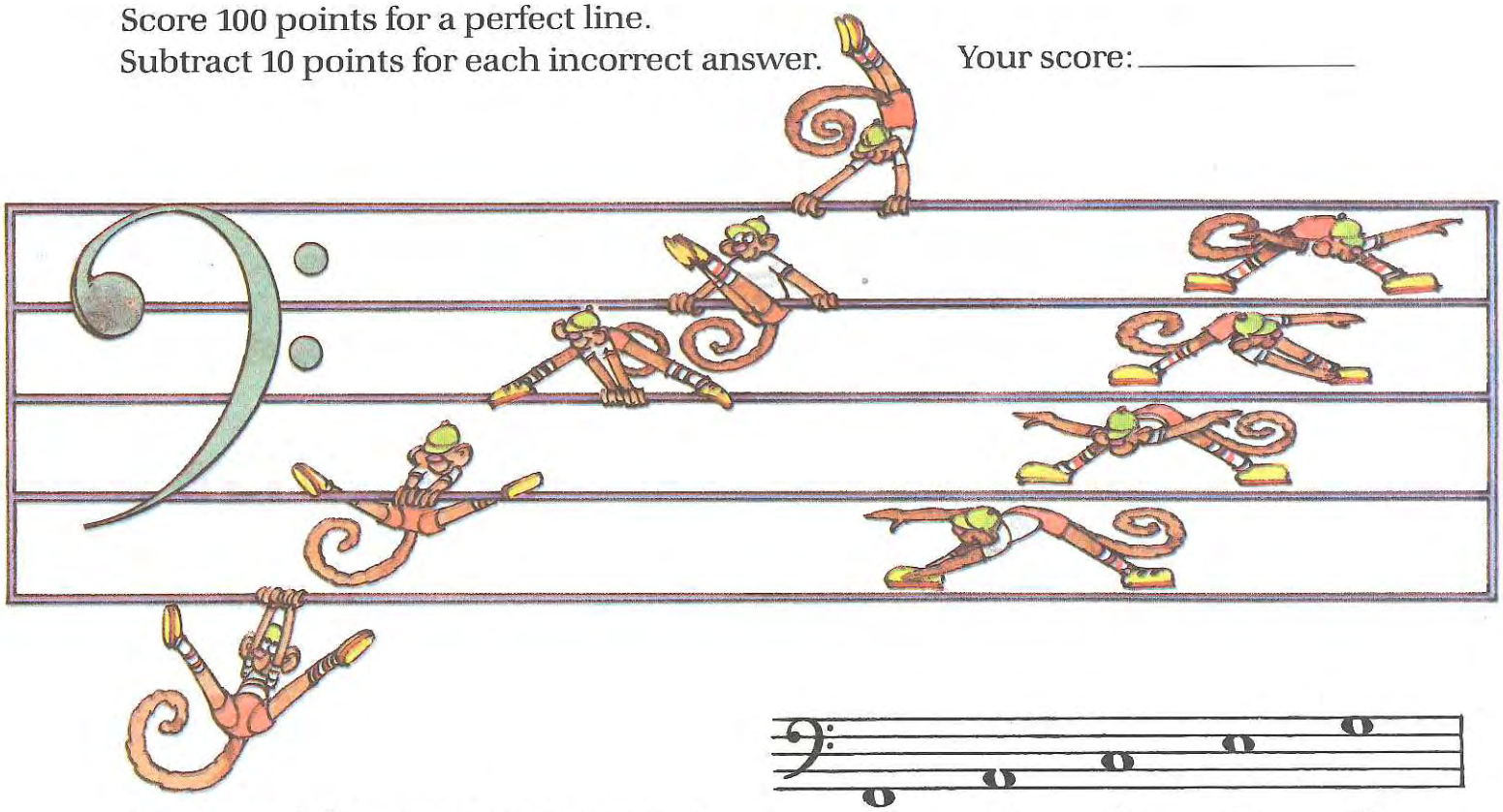


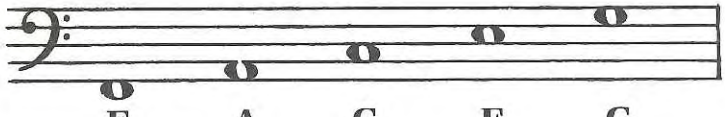
The bass clef **line note** names are: **G B D F A**

Name these line notes.



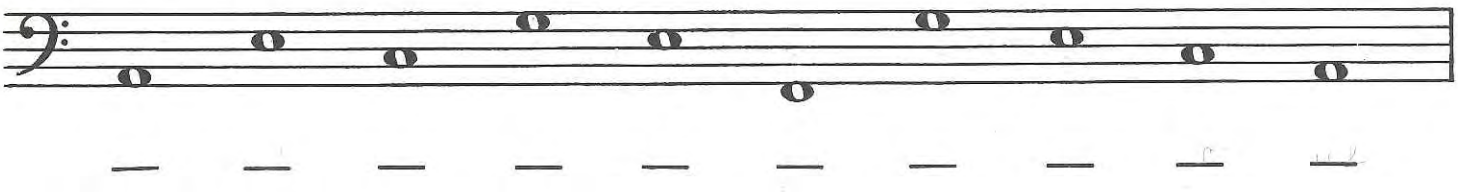
Score 100 points for a perfect line.
Subtract 10 points for each incorrect answer. Your score: _____





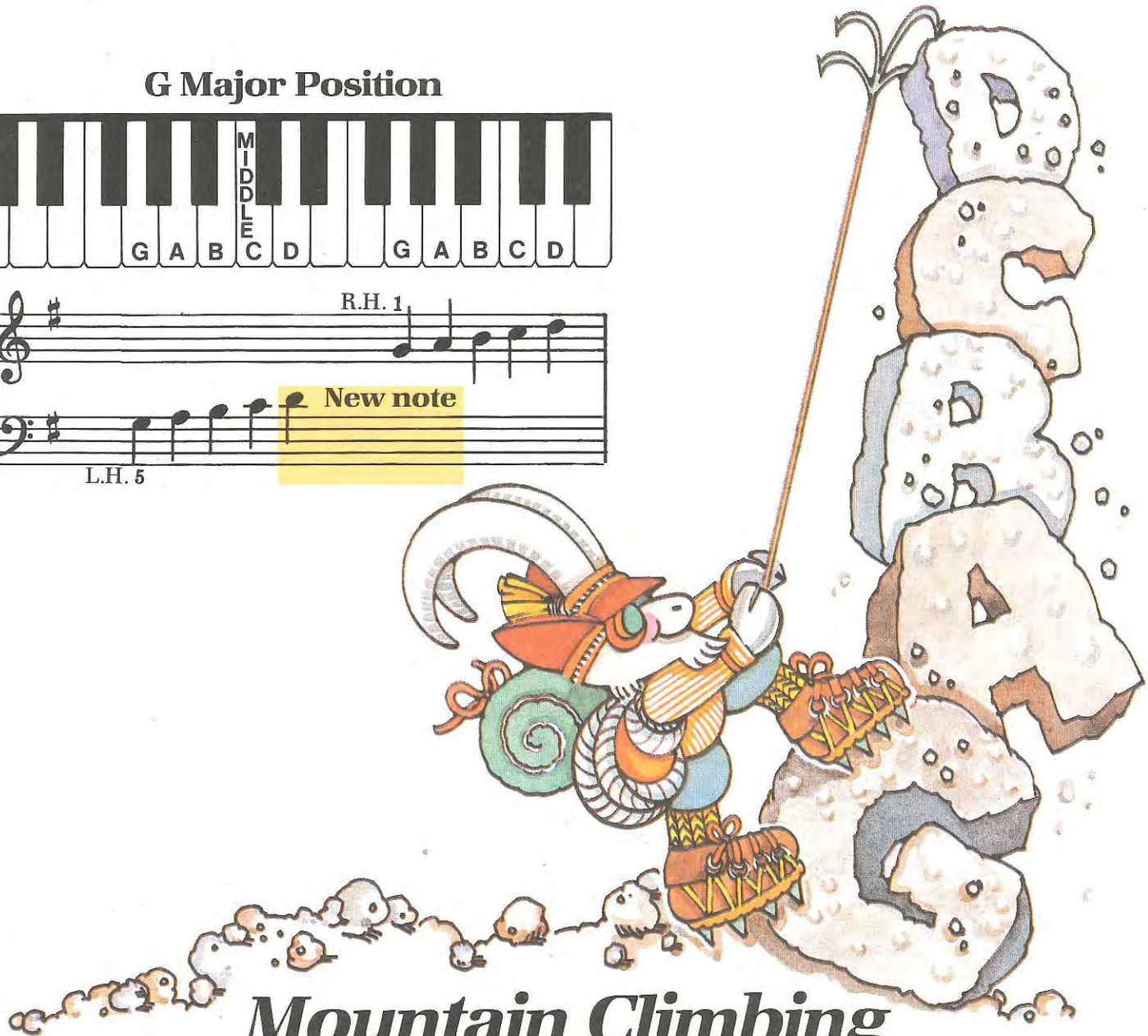
The bass clef **space note** names are: **F A C E G**

Name these space notes.



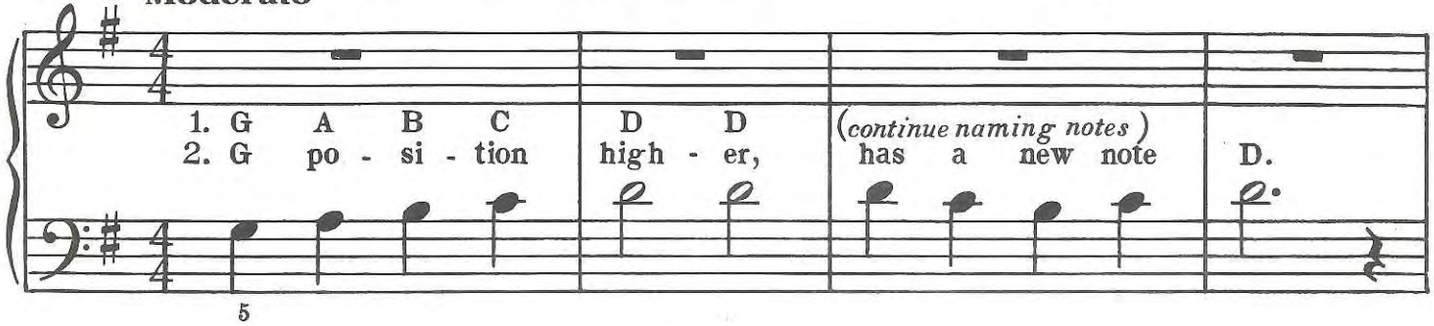
Score 100 points for a perfect line.
Subtract 10 points for each incorrect answer. Your score: _____

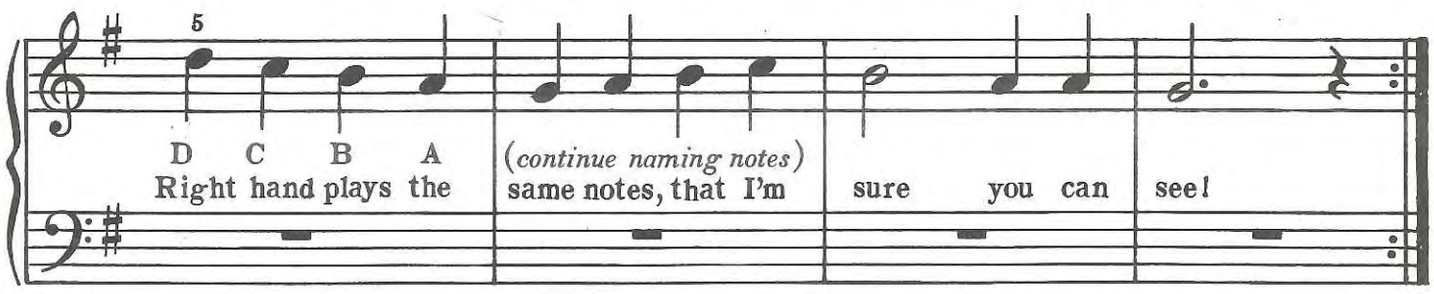
G Major Position



Mountain Climbing

Moderato

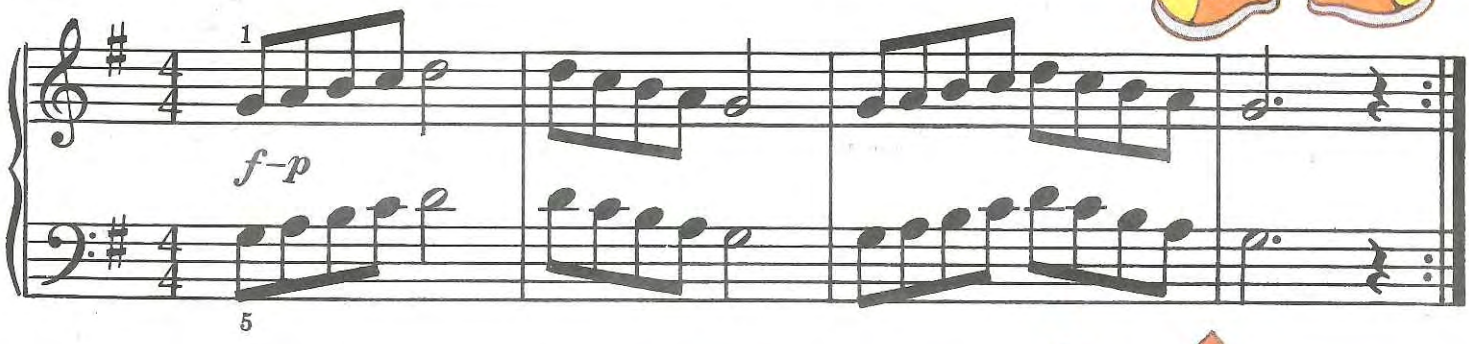


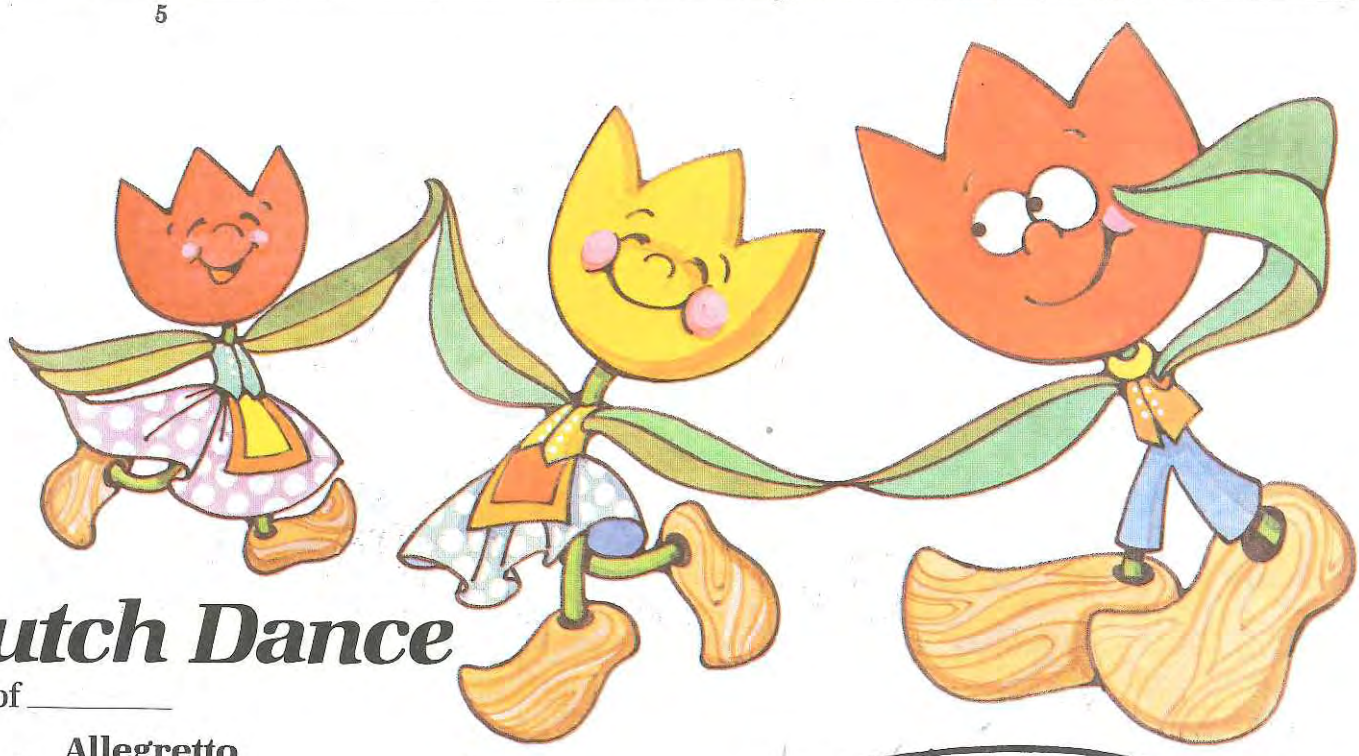


Warm-up

First, play legato. Then play staccato. =

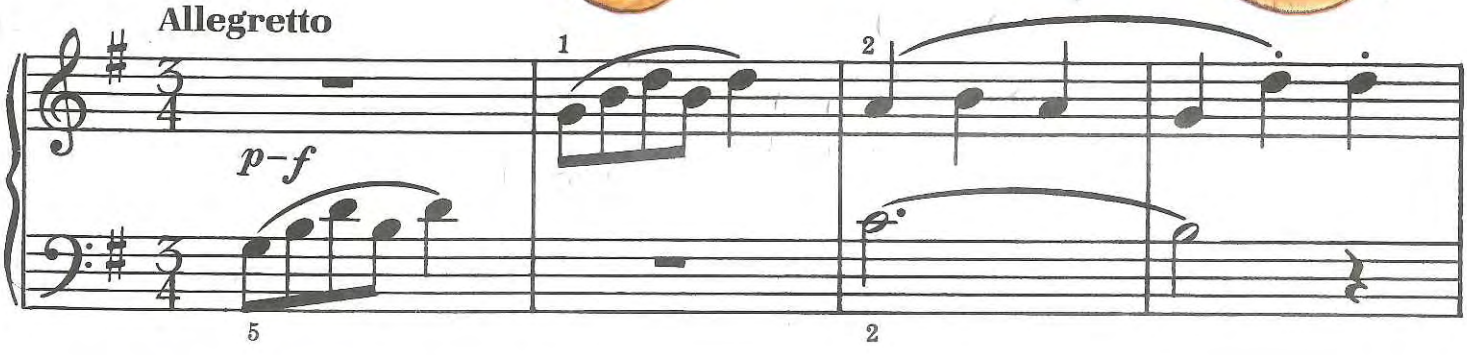
Key of _____

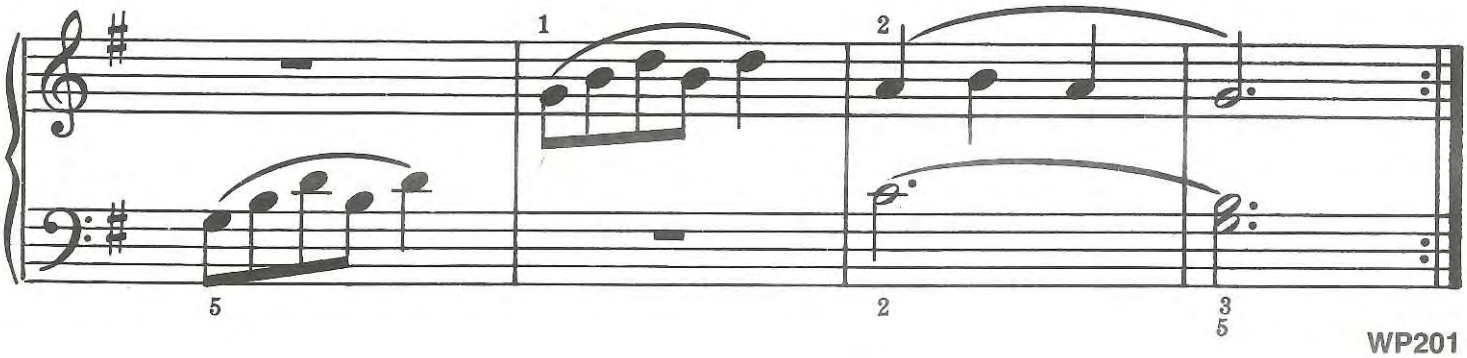




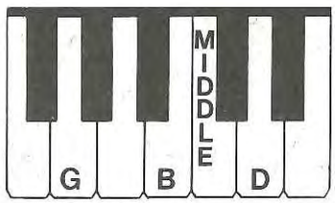
Dutch Dance

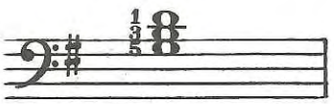
Key of _____



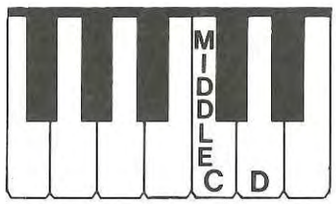


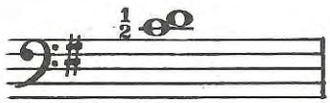
Accompaniment in G





I

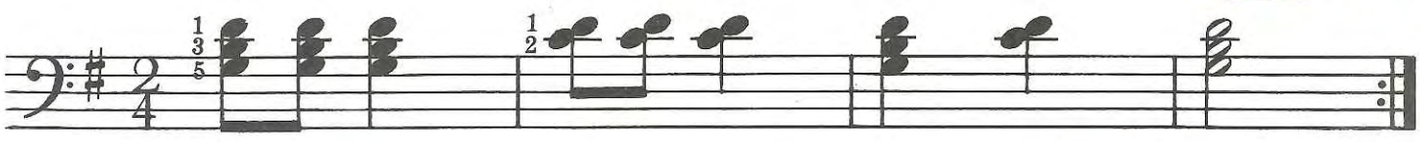




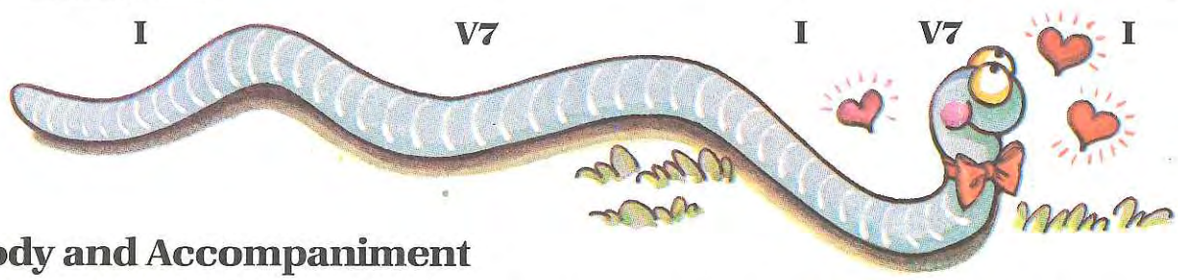
V7

Warm-up

Practice these L.H. chords in G Major. Play by "feel," without looking at your hand for the chord changes.



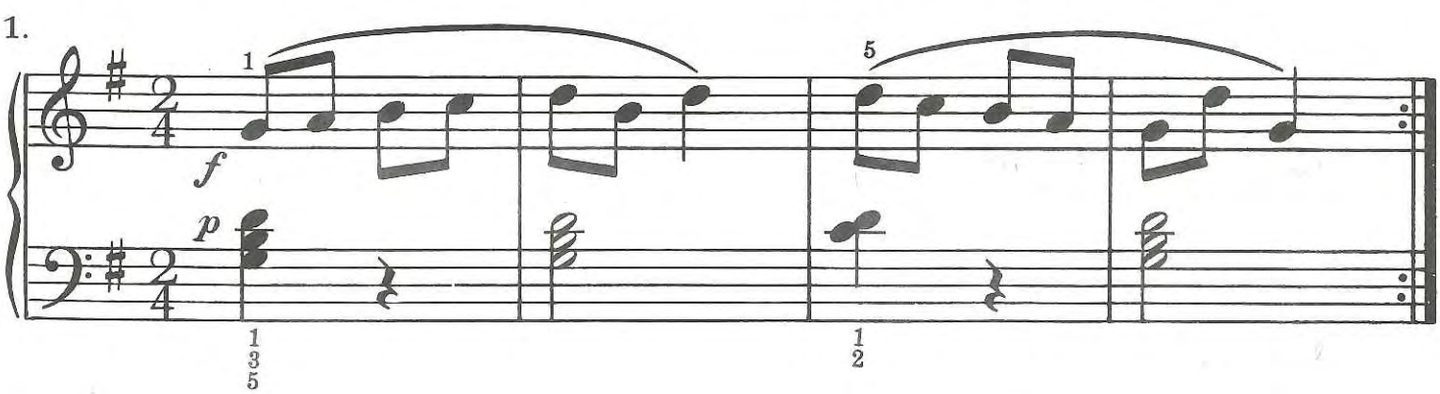
I V7 I V7 I



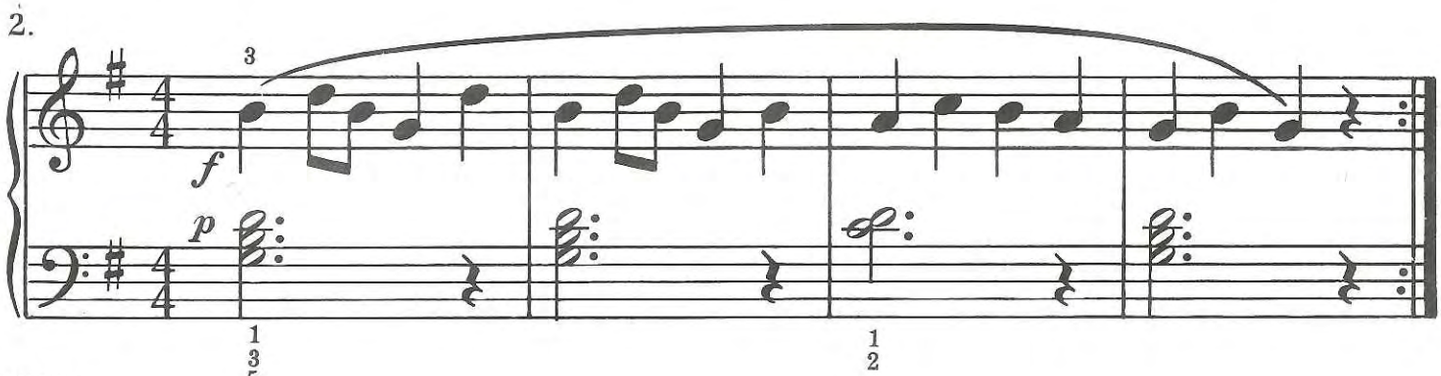
Melody and Accompaniment

Play the accompaniment **softer** than the melody for the correct balance.

1.



2.



Soccer Is My Favorite

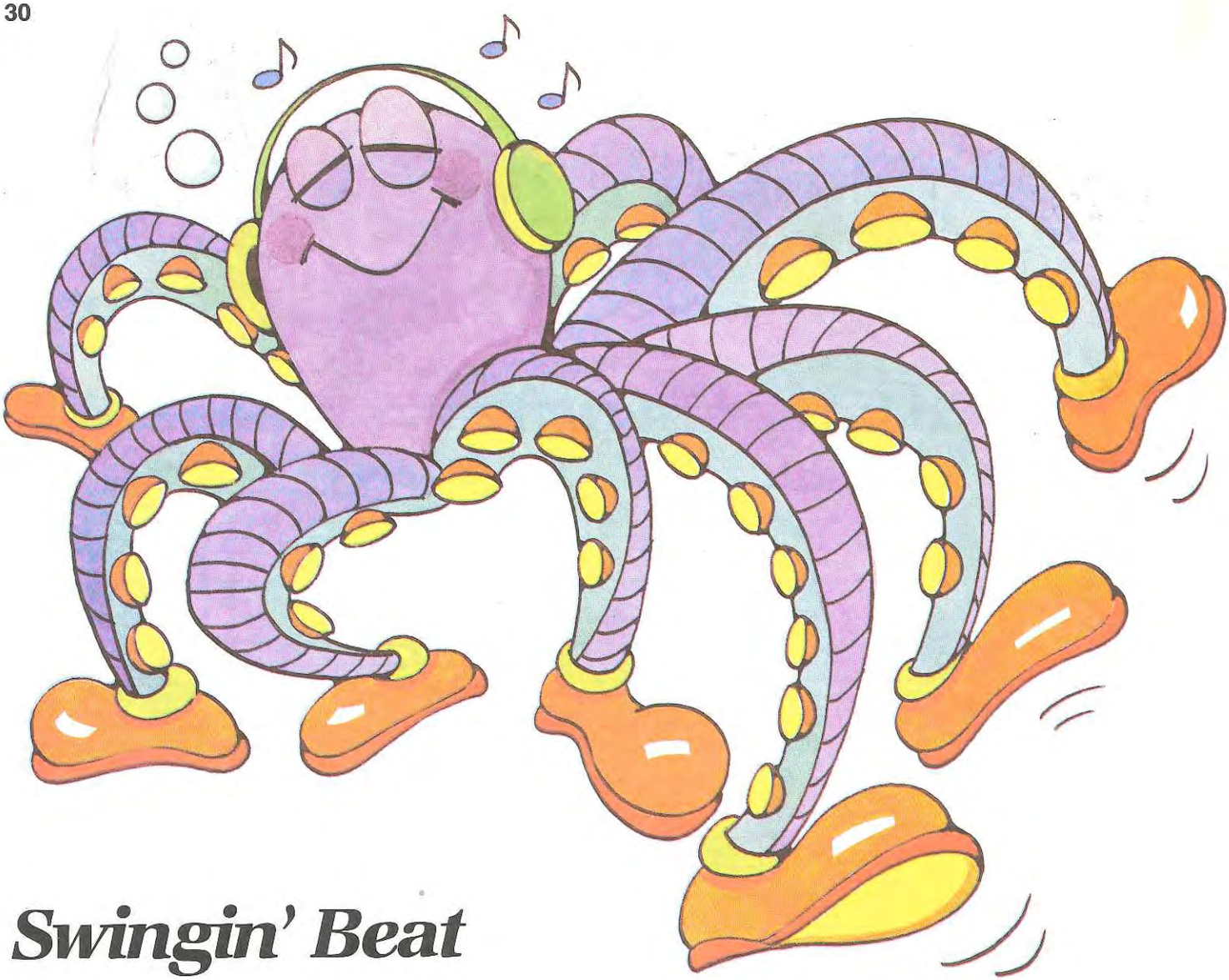
Lively

mf Soc - cer is my fa - v'rite sport, I am hap - py to re - port.

It's the great - est game of all! Kick that check - er'd ball!

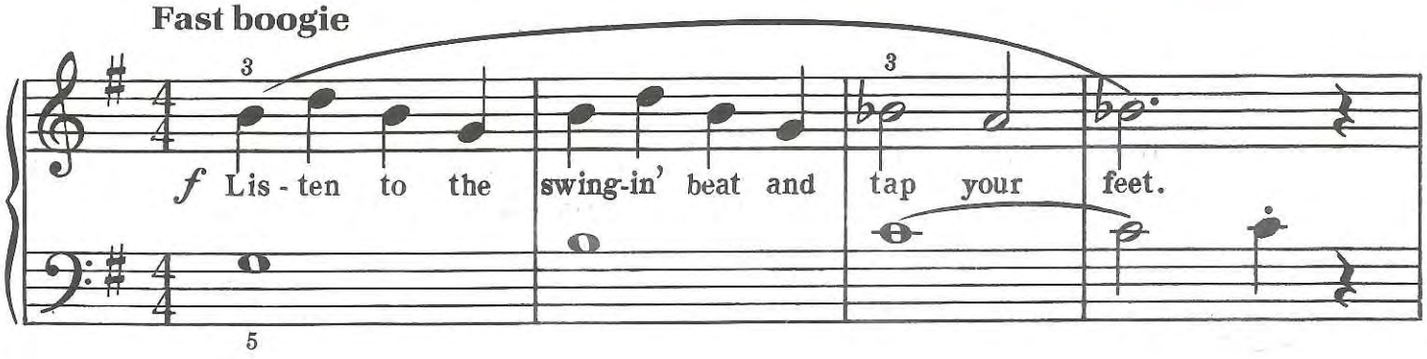
It takes lots of foot con - trol Just to make a sin - gle goal.

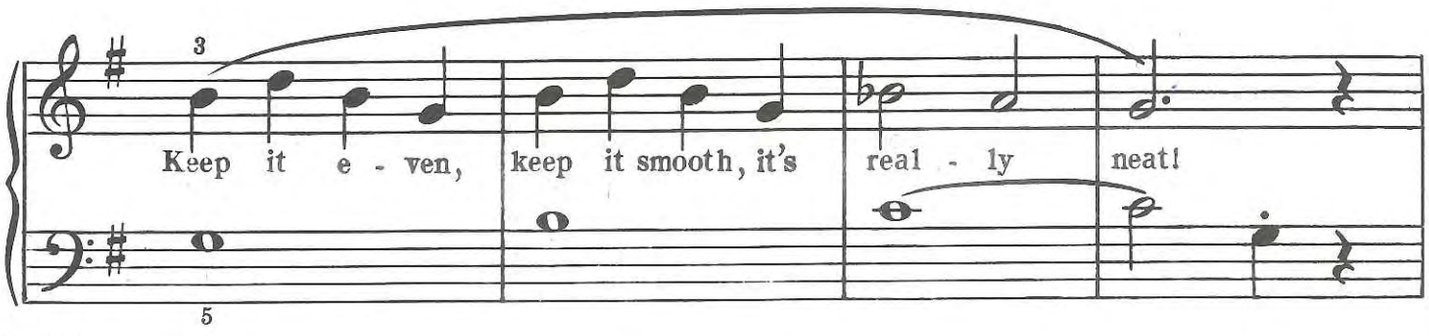
When we win, it's real - ly great! We all cel - e - brate!



Swingin' Beat

Fast boogie





Feel the rhy - thm, clap your hands. The rhy - thm's strong.

Keep it e - ven, keep it smooth, and sing this song.

Swing and sway to the beat, swing-in' rhy - thm in your feet.

Keep it e - ven, keep it smooth, it's real - ly neat! Oh, yeah!

Dynamic Shading

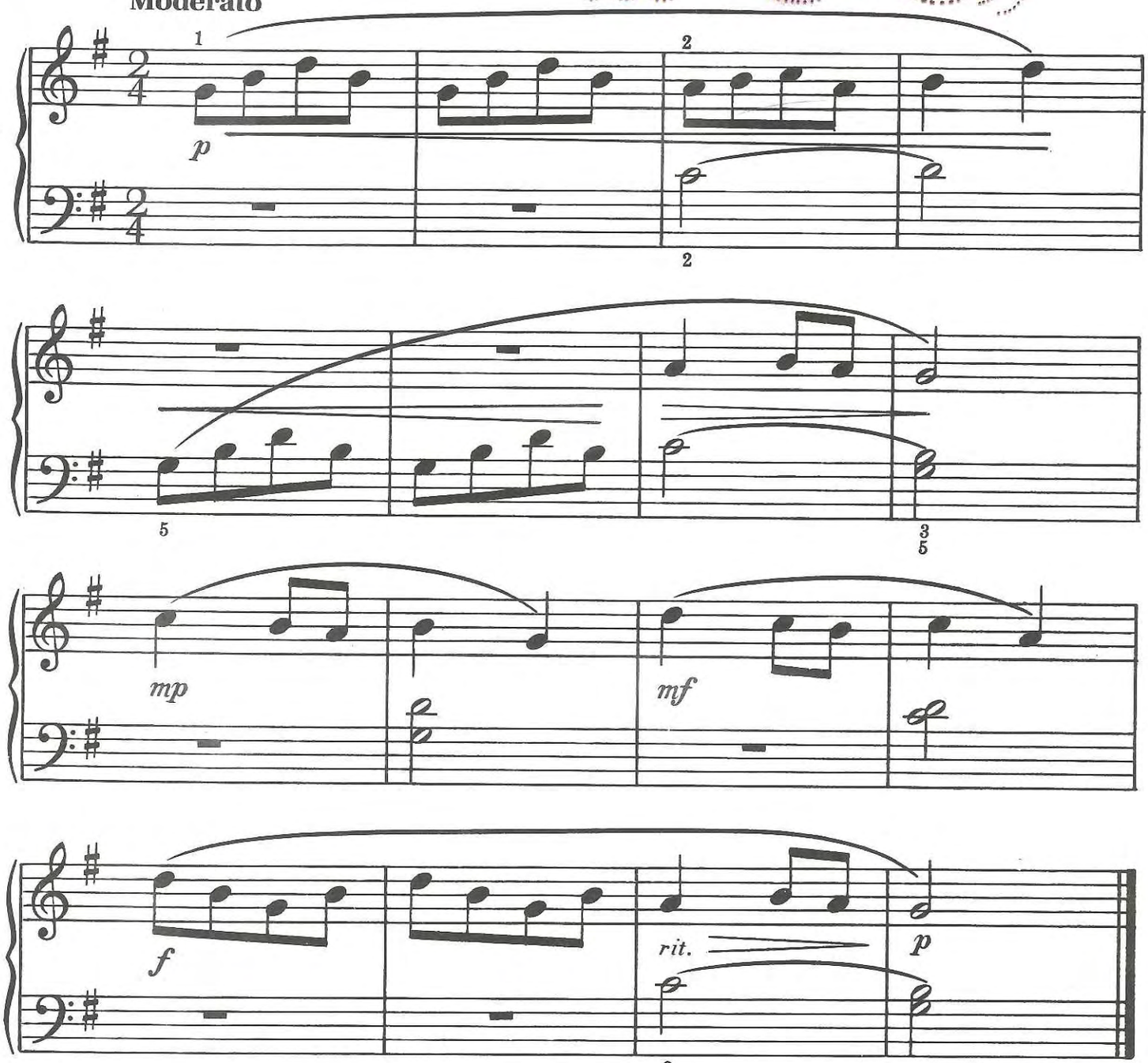
Dynamic shading is created by changes in volume. Changes from soft to loud or from loud to soft are necessary for musical expression.

Crescendo (gradually play louder)

Diminuendo (gradually play softer)

Floating Clouds

Moderato



Rit. is the abbreviation for **ritardando**. It means to slow down gradually.

Fiesta

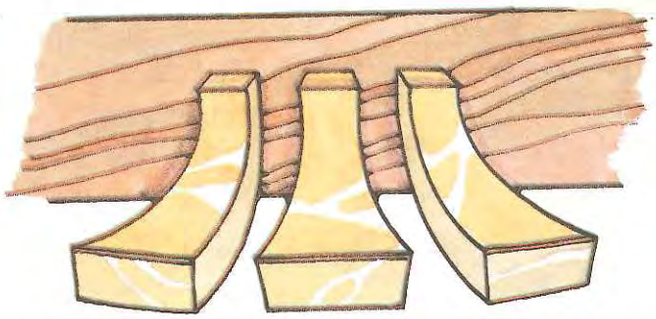
Allegro

mf

f

O - le!

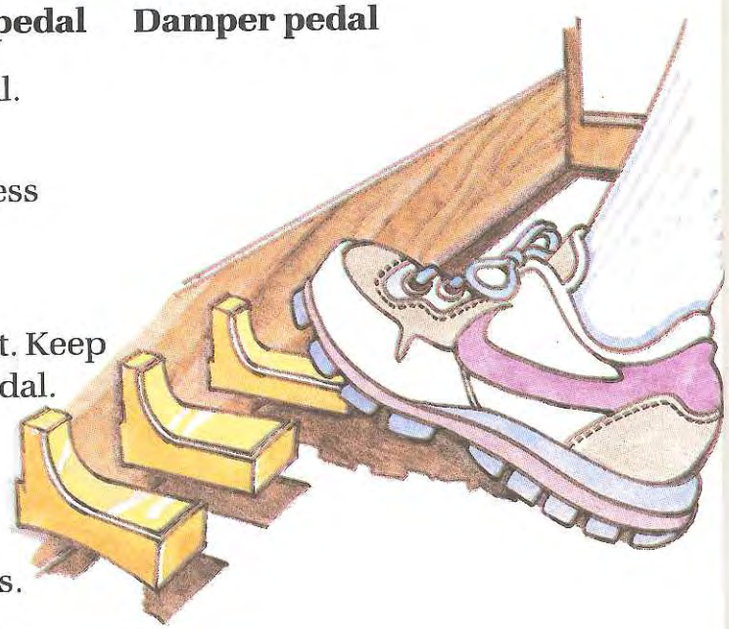
The Damper Pedal



Soft pedal **Sostenuto pedal** **Damper pedal**

The pedal on the **right** is the **damper** pedal.
It is used to hold tones.

This sign ⌊———⌋ shows when to press and lift the damper pedal.



Pedal Technic

Press the damper pedal with your right foot. Keep your heel on the floor when you use the pedal.

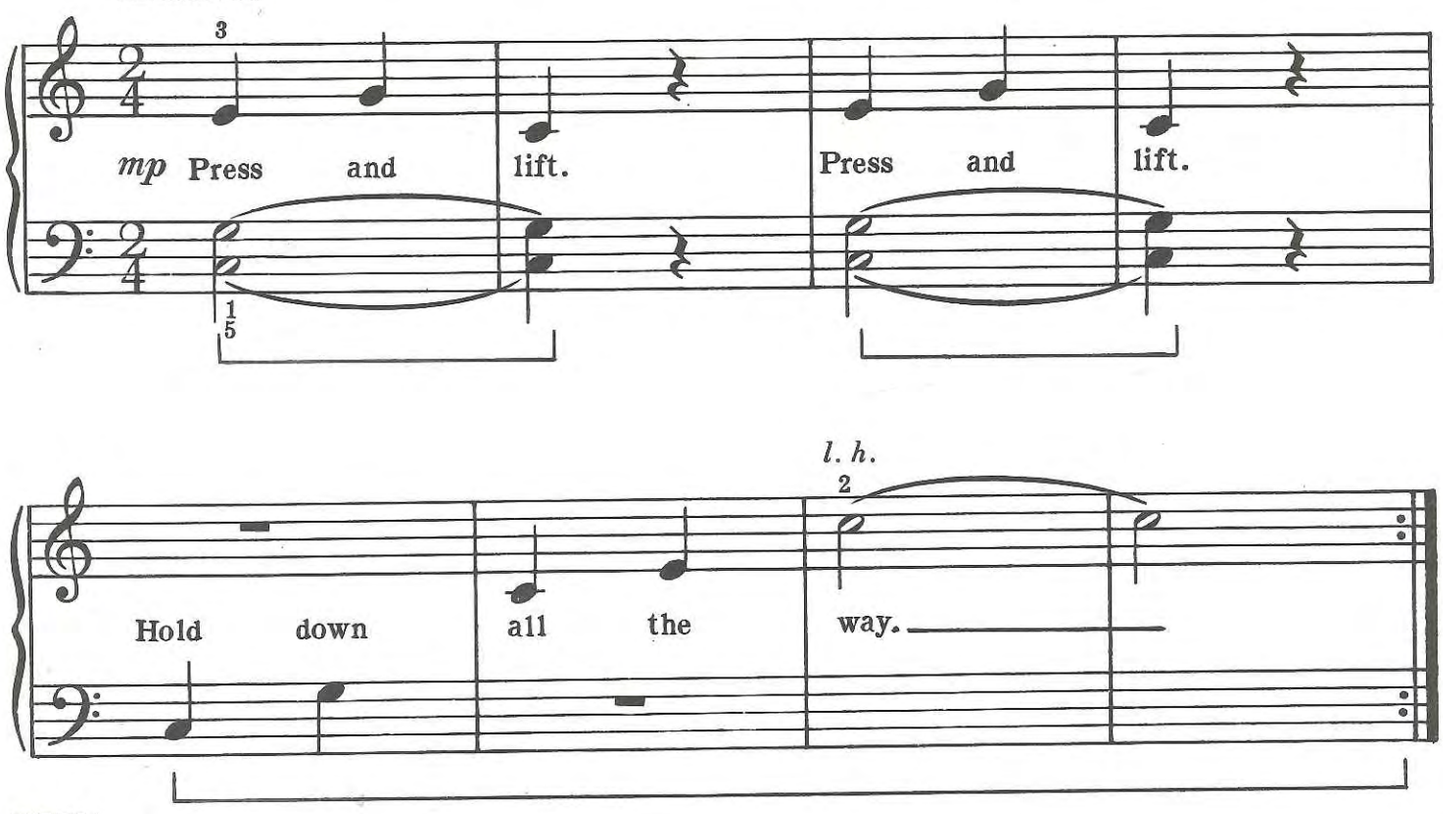
↓ ⌊———————————⌋ ↑

Press Hold Lift

Listen carefully to the sound that the pedal adds.

Pedal Study

Andante



Morning Prelude

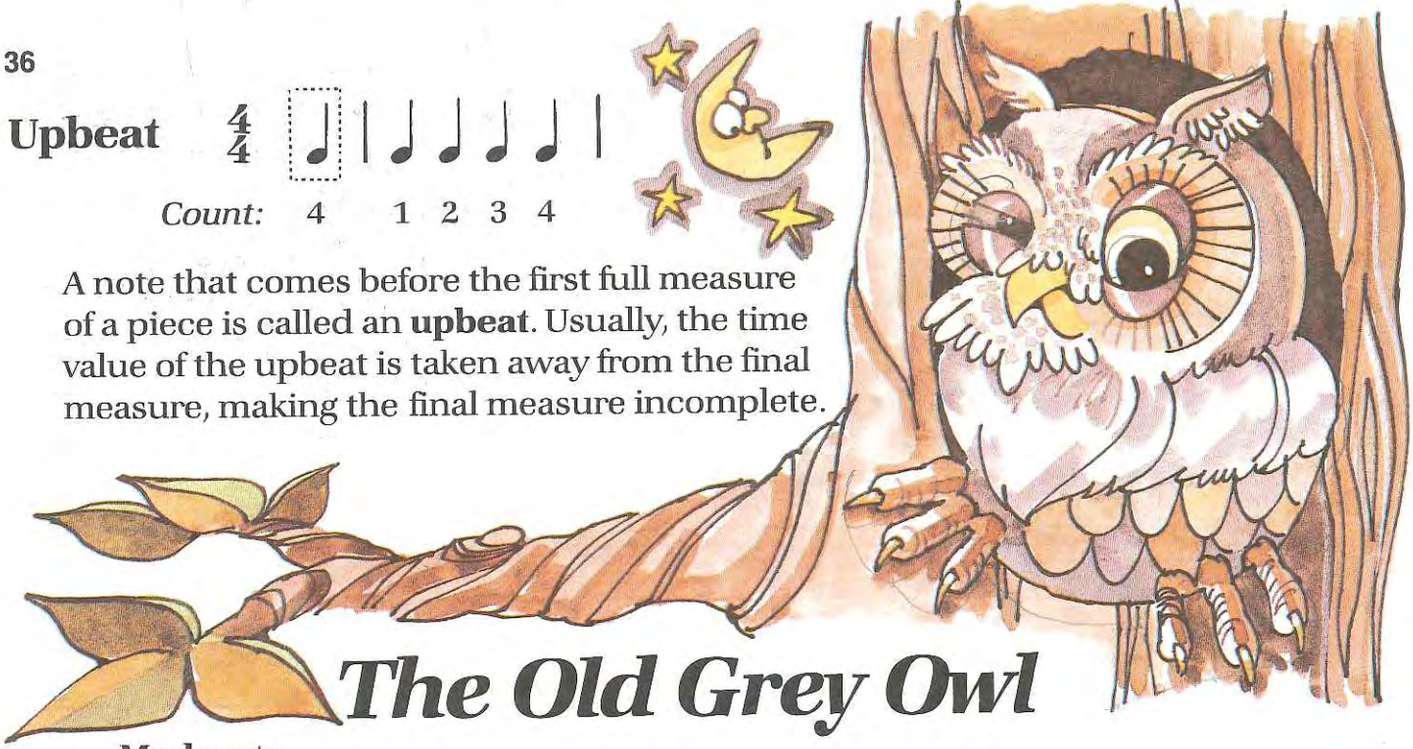
Allegretto

mf – mp

Note: On the repeat, you may play one octave higher than written.

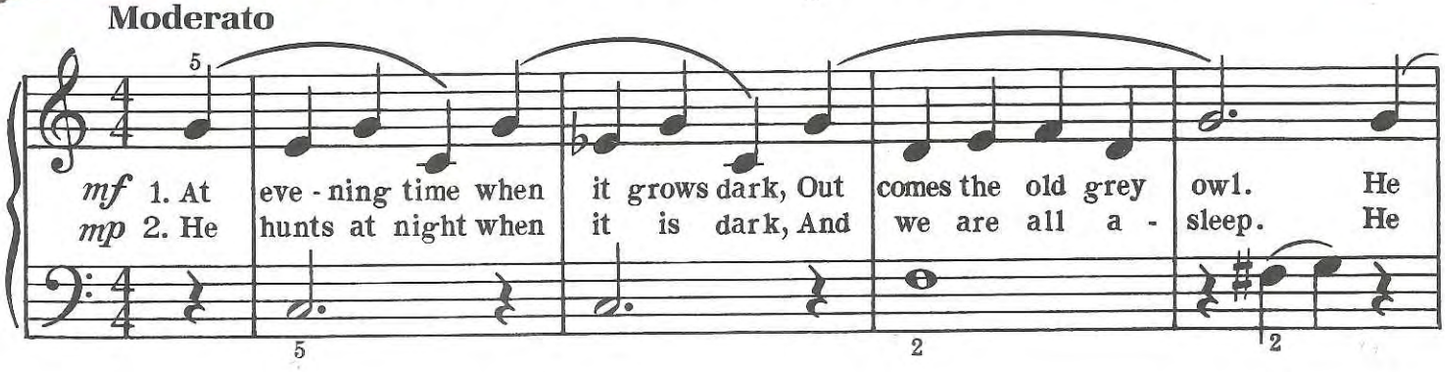
Upbeat

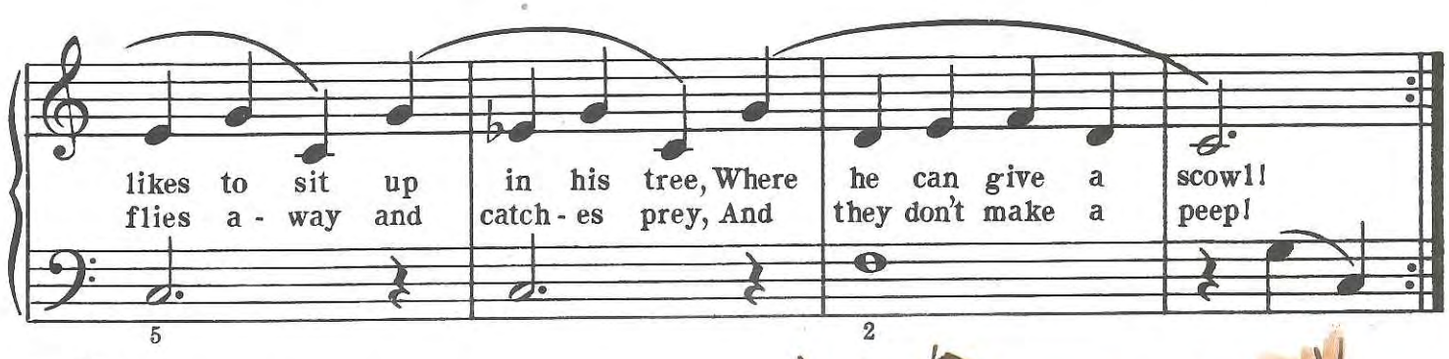
A note that comes before the first full measure of a piece is called an **upbeat**. Usually, the time value of the upbeat is taken away from the final measure, making the final measure incomplete.



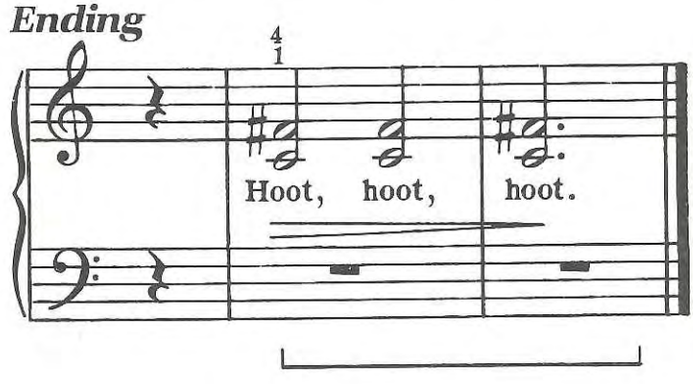
The Old Grey Owl

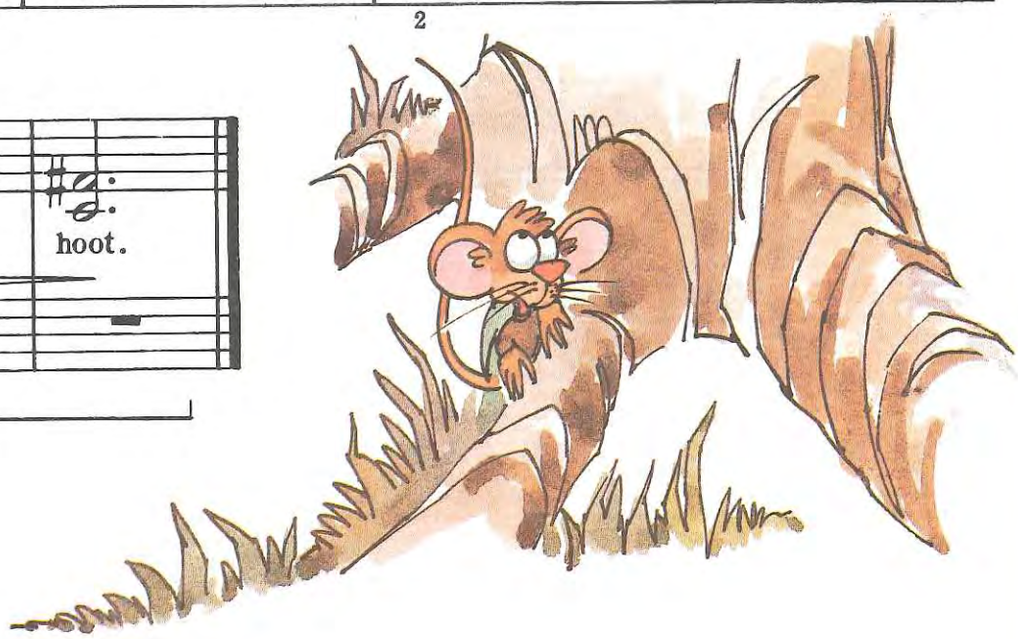
Moderato

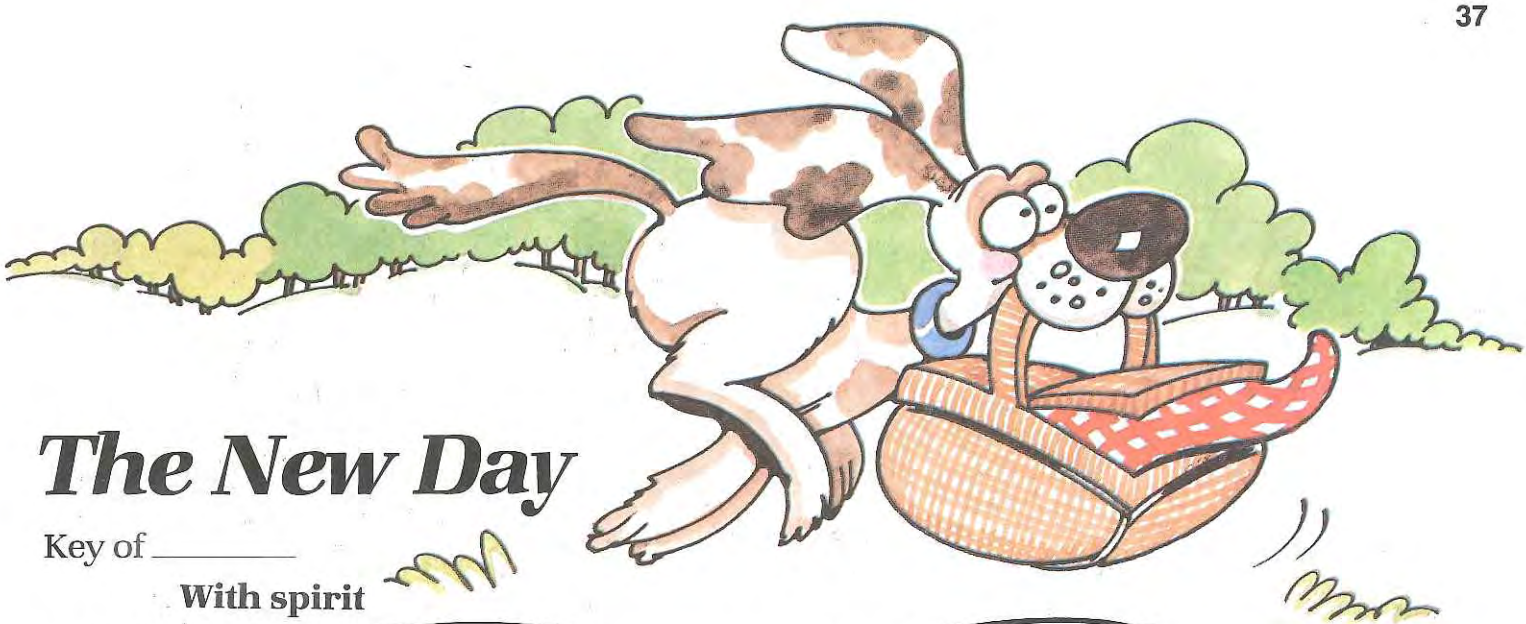




Ending







The New Day

Key of _____

With spirit

mf 1. It is a brand new day. It's time to shout hoo - ray! There's
f 2. Let's take a - long old Spot. Hey, that's a pleas - ant thought! Out

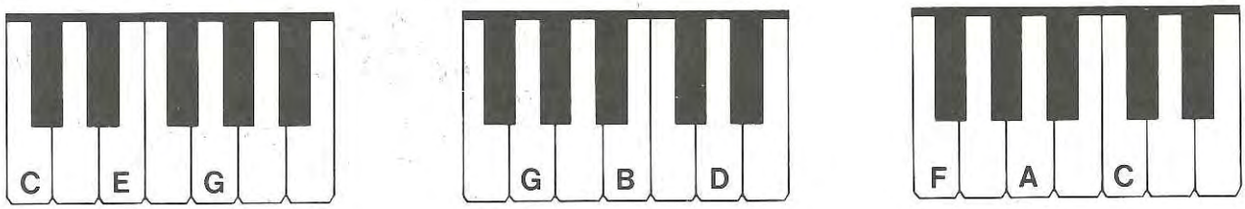
not a cloud in sight. This day is dy - na - mite!
in the coun - try - side. He'll be a su - per guide! Oh,

let's go out and shout hoo - ray! It's

going to be a real ter - rif - ic day!

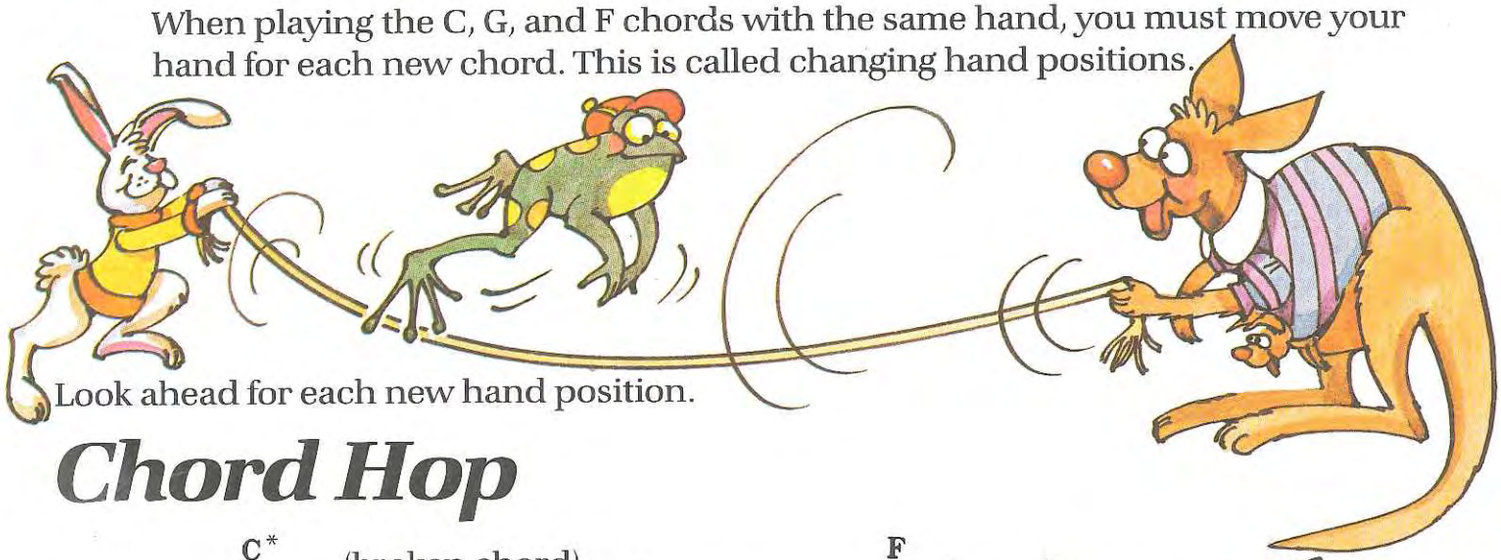
Group 1 Keys (C, G, F)

You have learned to play in three keys: C, G, and F. These three keys are called the **Group 1 Keys** because they all have the same feel and look in their I chords. Each chord has only **white keys**.



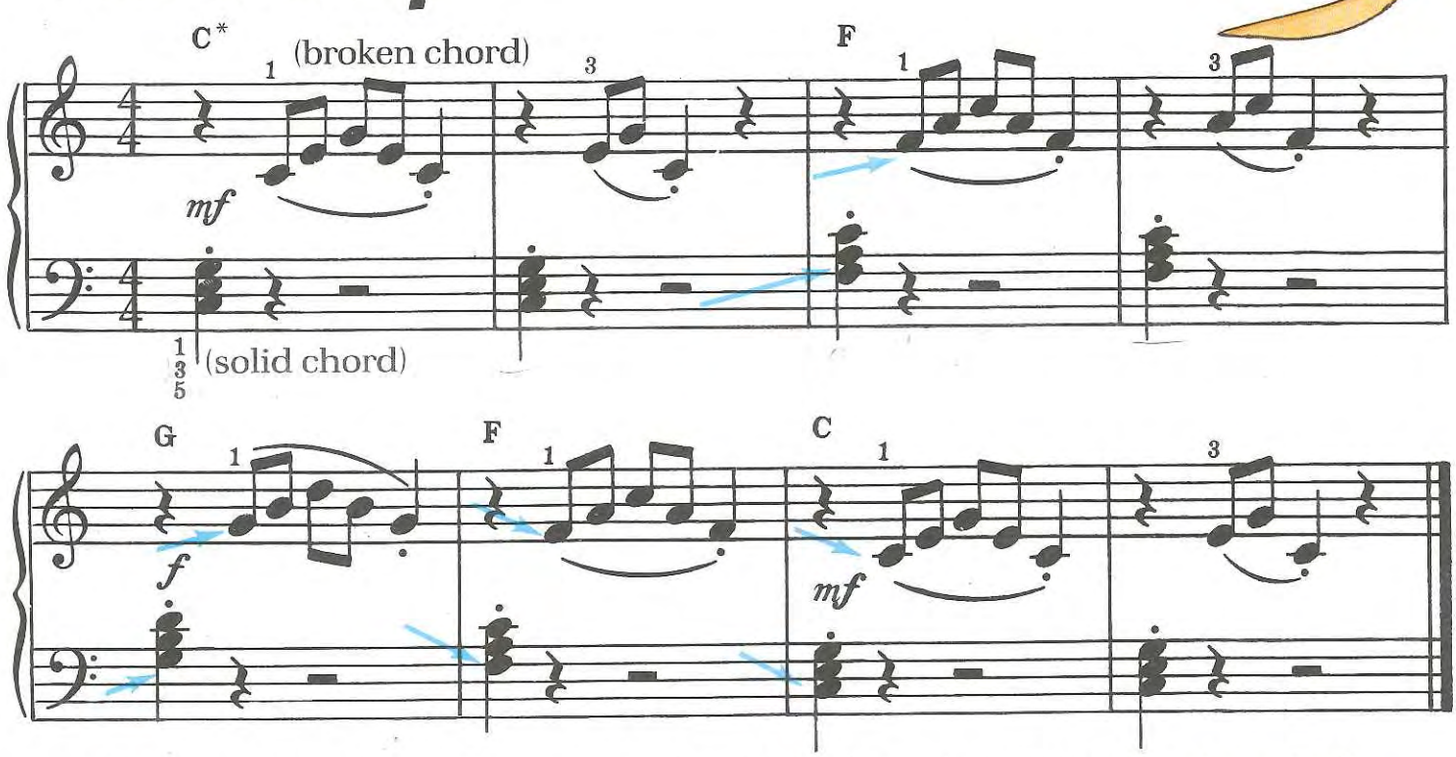
Changing Hand Positions

When playing the C, G, and F chords with the same hand, you must move your hand for each new chord. This is called changing hand positions.



Look ahead for each new hand position.

Chord Hop



*The letter above the staff names the chord. The letter is called a **chord symbol**.

Rockin' Song

Steady rock beat

C

f Well, let's all rock a - long and tap our feet to the beat,

F

The mu - sic's in the air, it's sound-ing ev - 'ry - where.

G F

Oh what a live - ly beat, I can-not stop my feet,

C

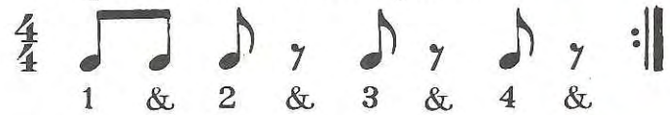
It's such a great rock song! Great rock song! Rock-in' song! Yeah!

Single Eighths

♪ or ♪ = one eighth note

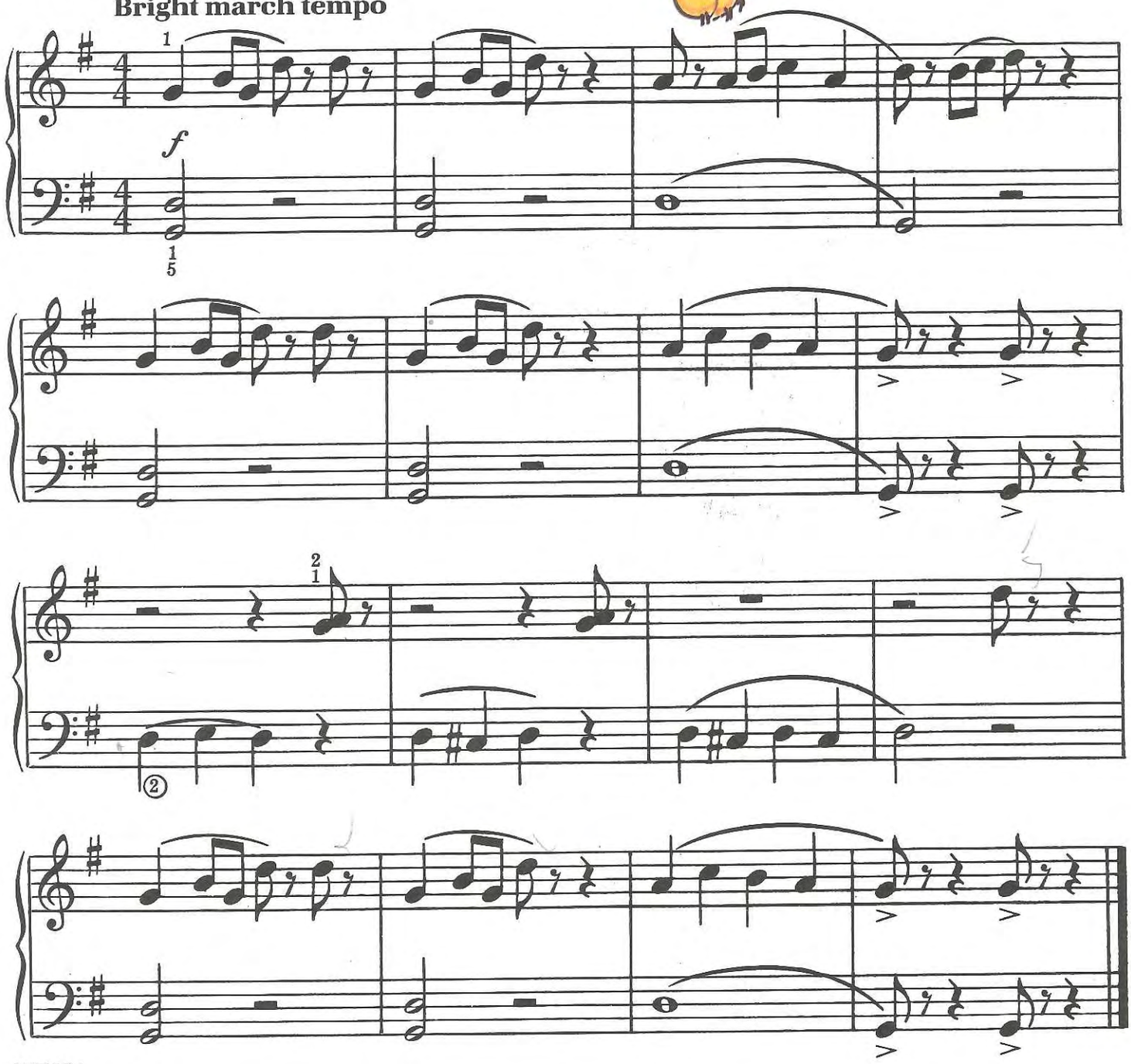
𝄾 = one eighth rest

★ Clap and count this rhythm:

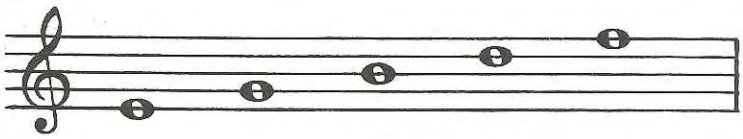


March

Bright march tempo

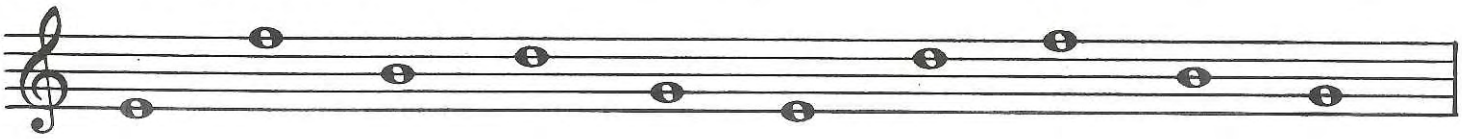


Treble Clef Note-Naming Game



The treble clef **line note** names are: **E G B D F**

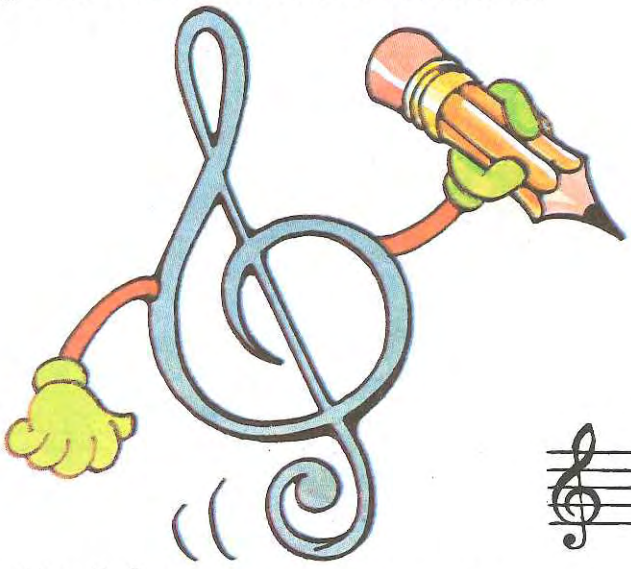
Name these line notes.

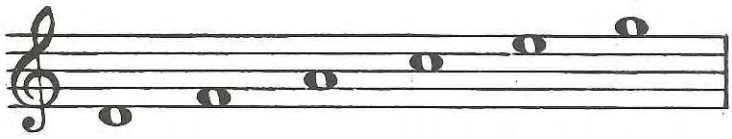


— — — — — — — — — —

Score 100 points for a perfect line.
Subtract 10 points for each incorrect answer.

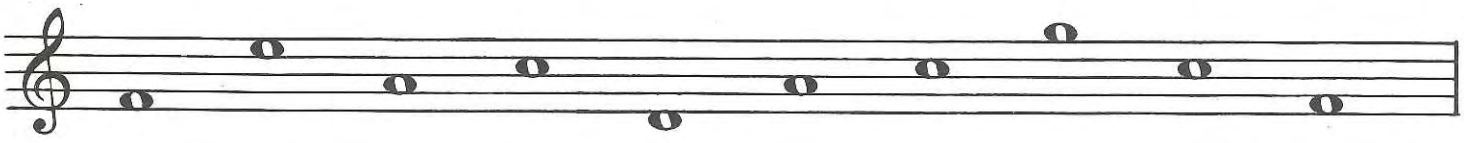
Your score: _____





The treble clef **space note** names are: **D F A C E G**

Name these space notes.



— — — — — — — — — —

Score 100 points for a perfect line.
Subtract 10 points for each incorrect answer.

Your score: _____

The Dotted Quarter Note

A dot after a note adds half the value of the note.

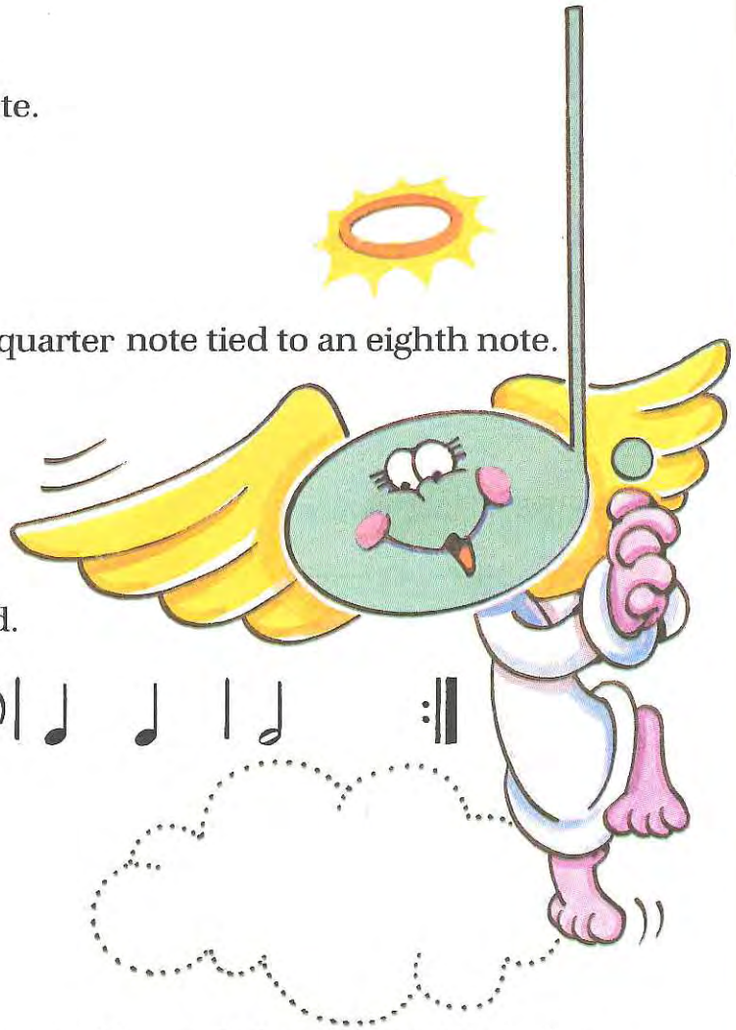
1 + ½ = 1½ beats

A dotted quarter note is played the same as a quarter note tied to an eighth note.

★ Clap and count the following rhythm aloud.

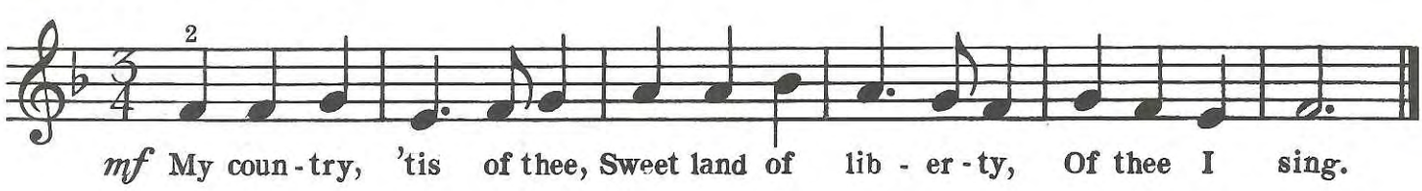
Count: 1 & 2 &

or: quar-ter dot eighth



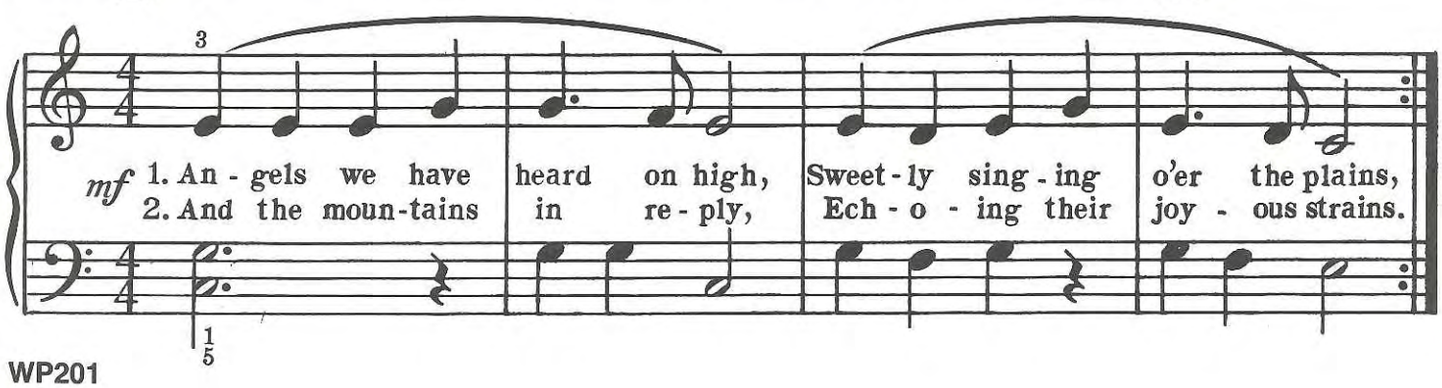
The following melodies have dotted rhythm patterns. Sing and clap the rhythm before playing. Play and count the rhythm aloud.

America



Play hands separately first.

Angels We Have Heard On High



D.C. al Fine

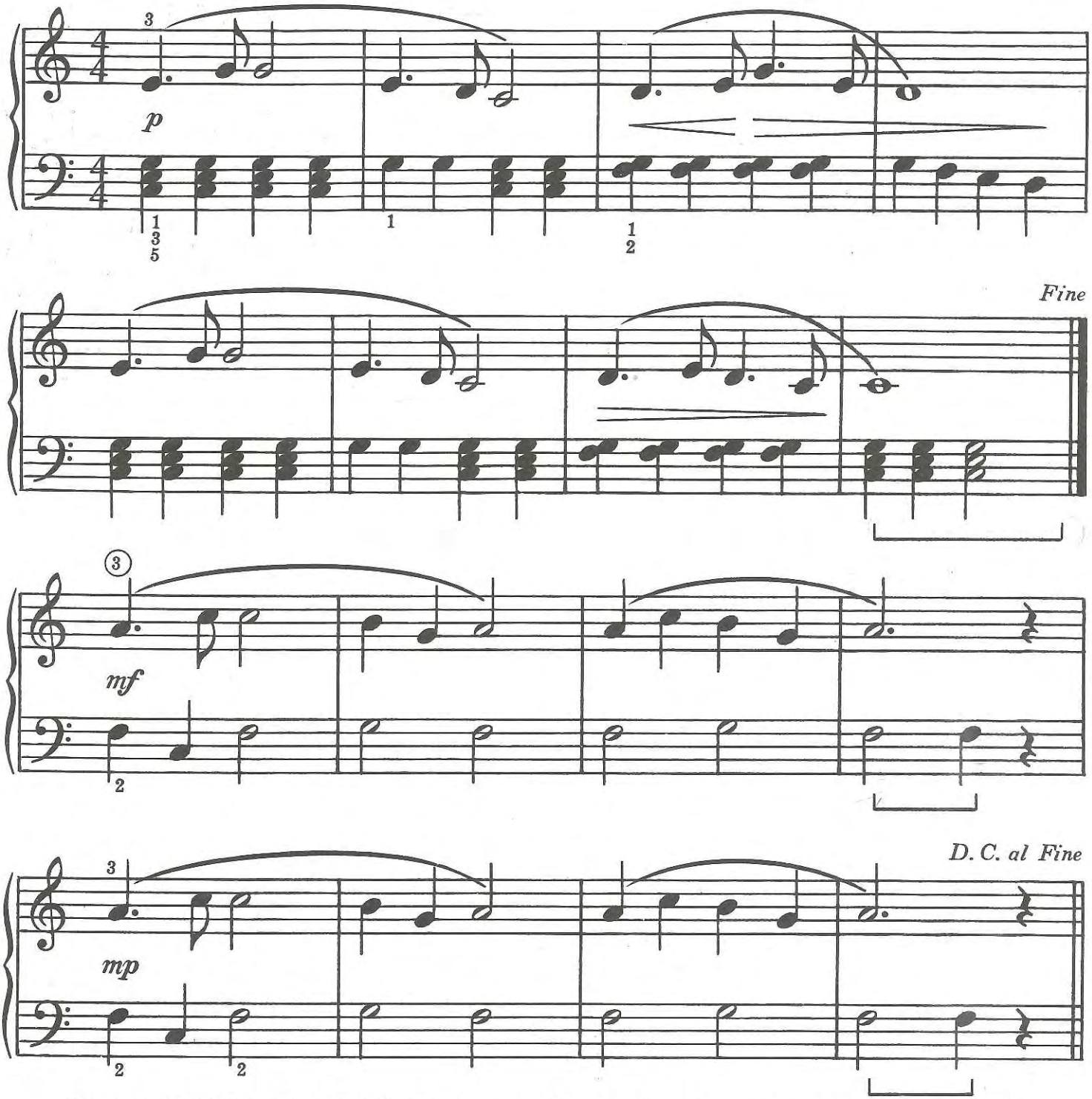
D.C. al Fine is an abbreviation for **Da Capo al Fine**.
It means to go back to the beginning and play to the *Fine* (end).

Largo

Theme from *From the New World Symphony*

Anton Dvořák*
(1841–1904)

Largo (very slowly)



*Anton Dvořák was a Czech composer who lived in the United States from 1892 until 1895. *From the New World* (1893) was the last symphony he wrote.

8va

8va is an **octave sign**. When placed **over** notes, play them one octave (eight notes) **higher** than written.

Alouette

French Folk Song

Allegretto

mf A - lou - et - te, pret - ty A - lou - et - te, A - lou - et - te,

all dressed up to - day! What a love - ly hat you've got, I do like it such a lot.

Fine

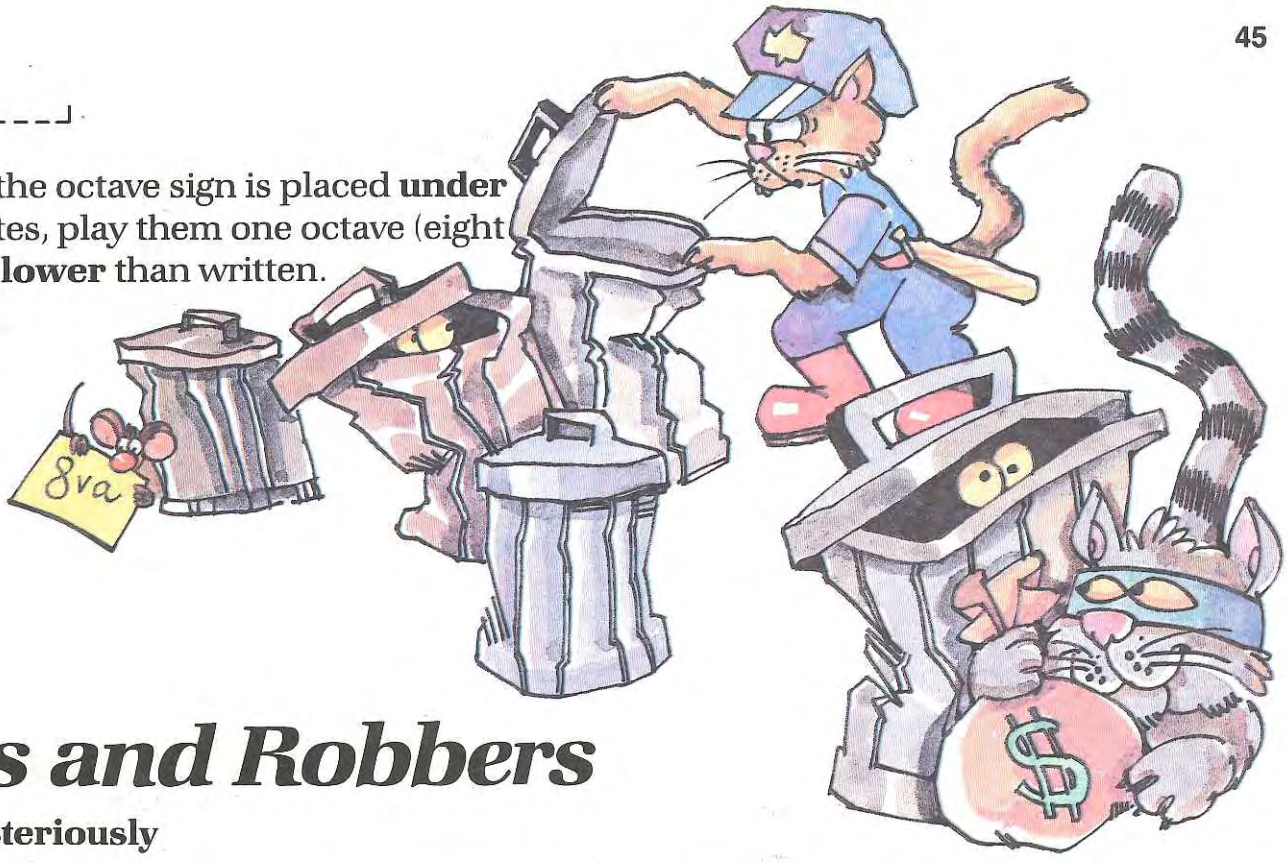
8va

f What a hat, what a dress, what a bow, in your hair! Oh

D. C. al Fine

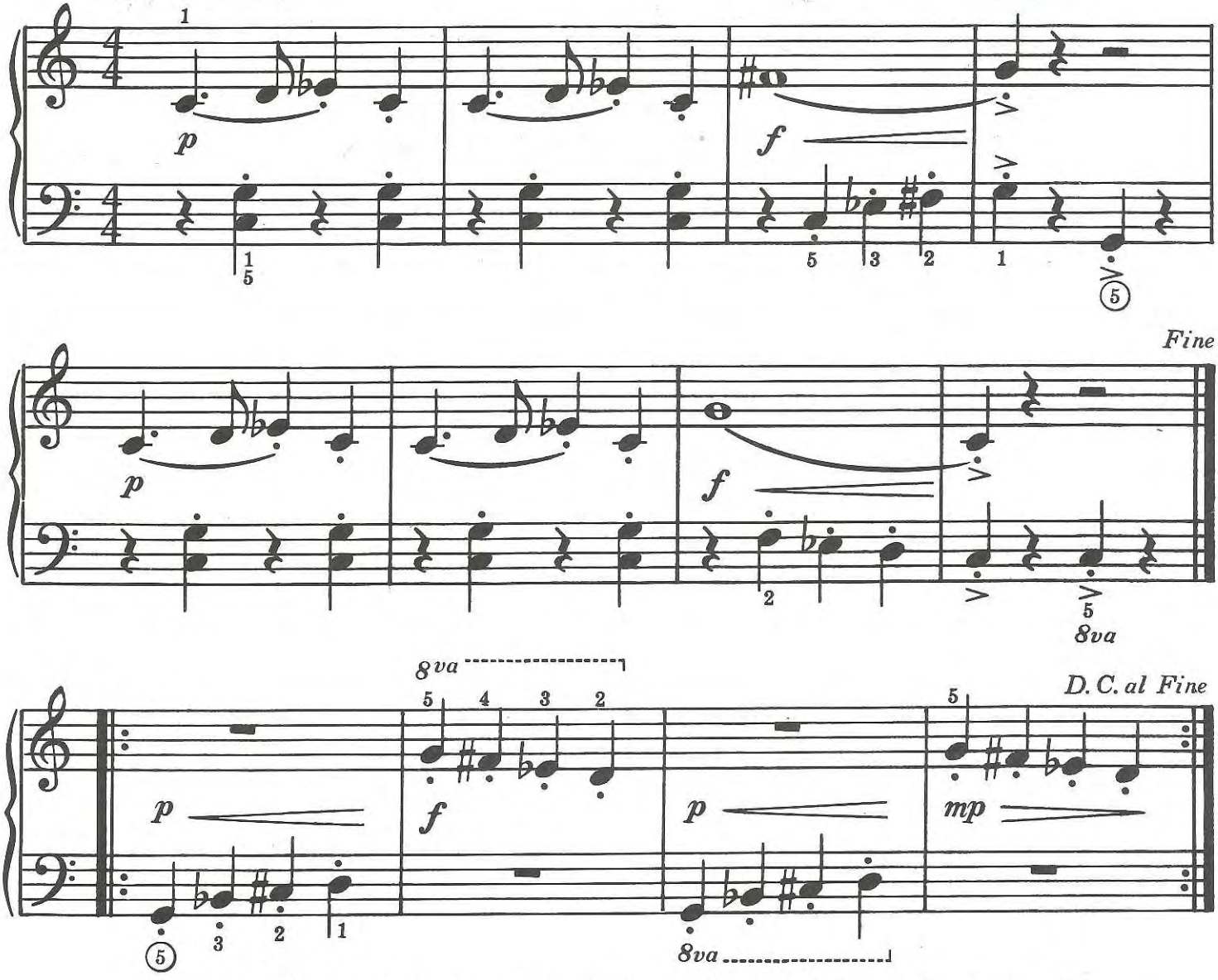
8va

When the octave sign is placed **under** the notes, play them one octave (eight notes) **lower** than written.



Cops and Robbers

Mysteriously



𝄆 Repeat the music between the pairs of dots and double bar lines. 𝄇

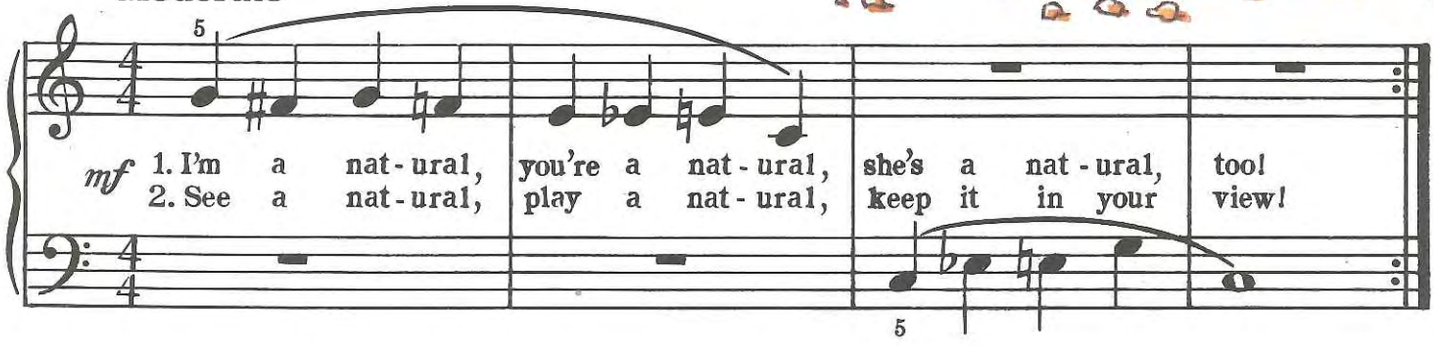
♮ Natural

This sign ♮ is called a **natural**. It cancels a sharp or flat. It means to play the natural (white) key.

Play:

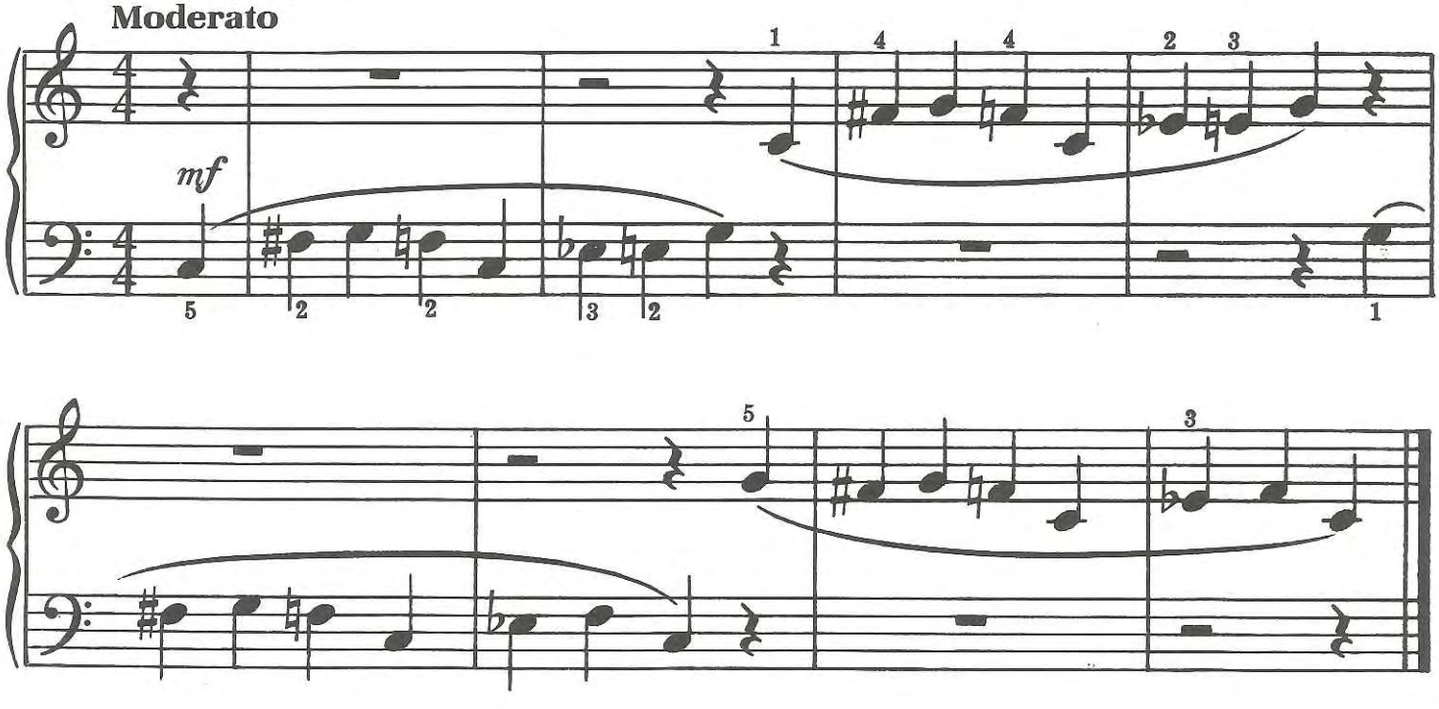
The Natural

Moderato



Cancel That!

Moderato



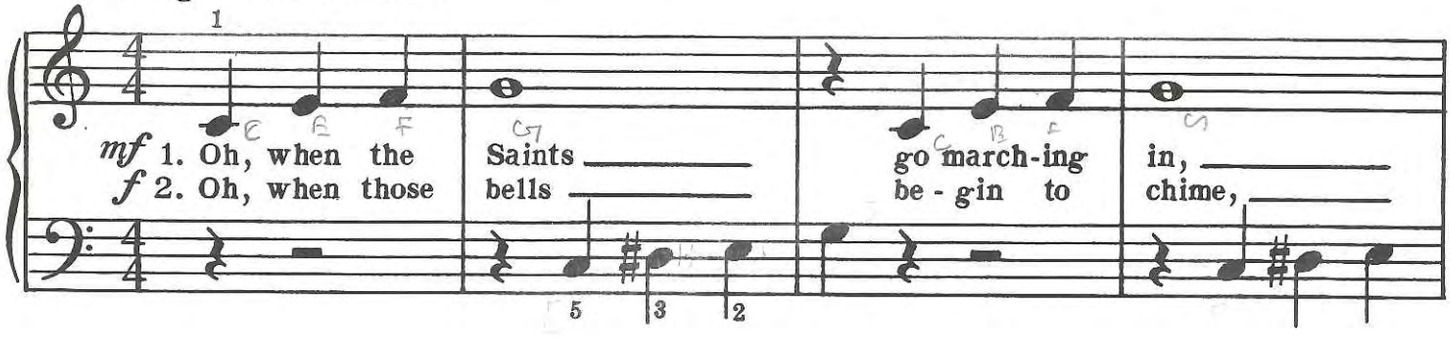
Celebration!

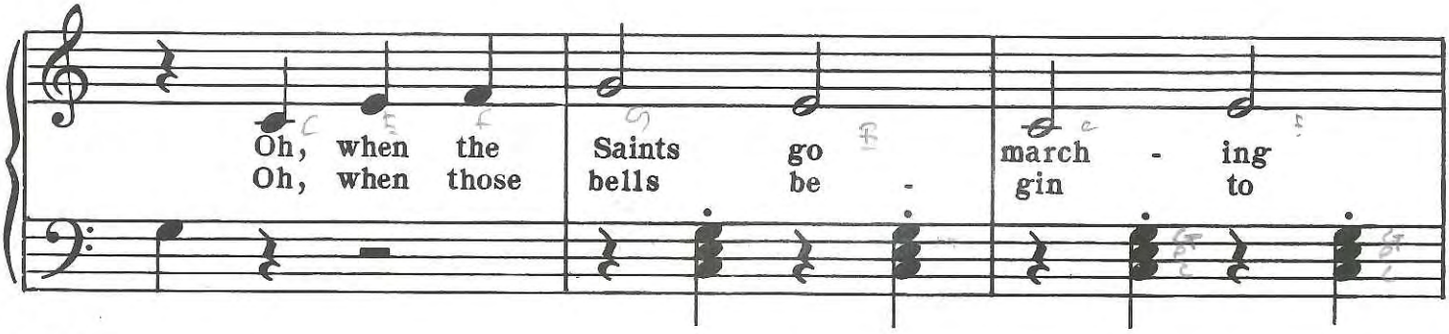
With spirit

f

When the Saints Go Marching In

Bright march time



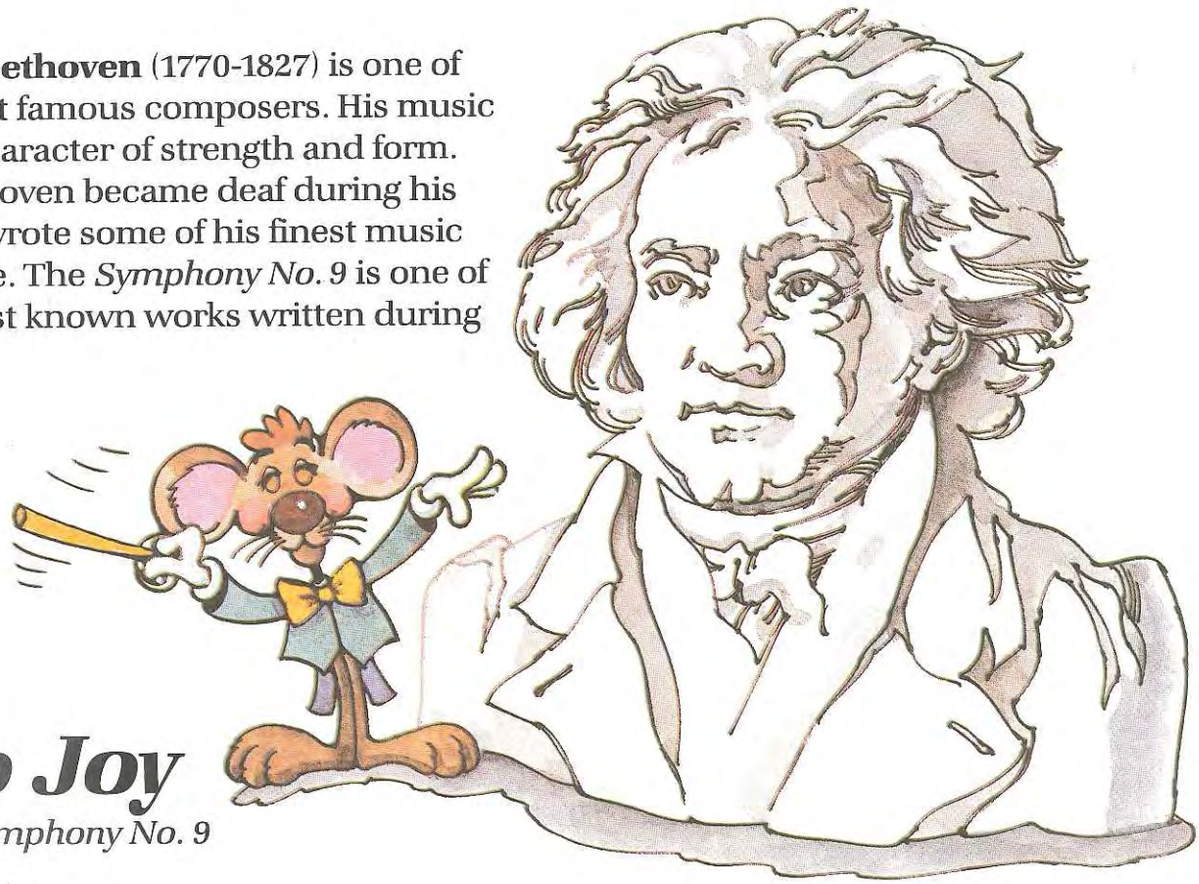


in, Oh, I want to
chime, Oh, I want to

be in that num - ber, When the
be in that num - ber, When those

Saints go march - ing in!
bells be - gin to chime!

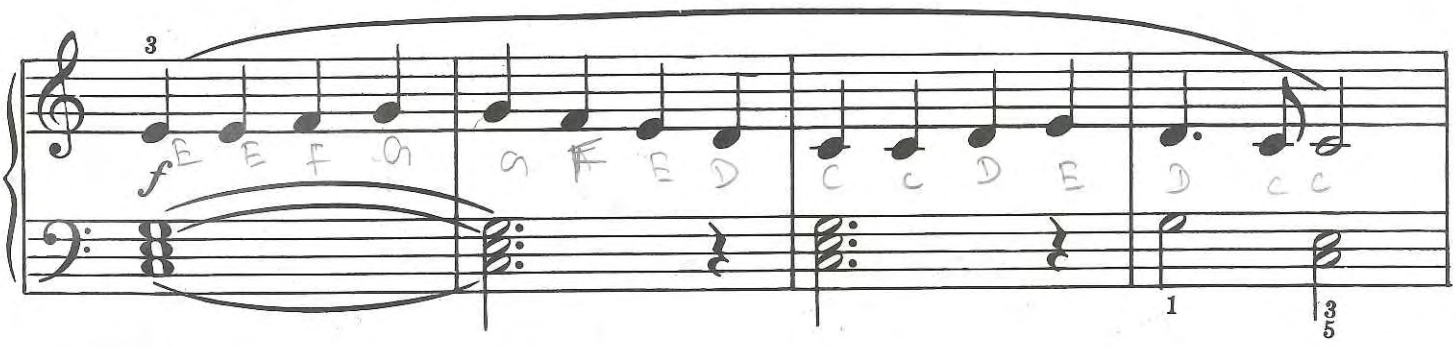
Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770-1827) is one of Germany's most famous composers. His music has a special character of strength and form. Although Beethoven became deaf during his later years, he wrote some of his finest music during this time. The *Symphony No. 9* is one of Beethoven's best known works written during his later years.

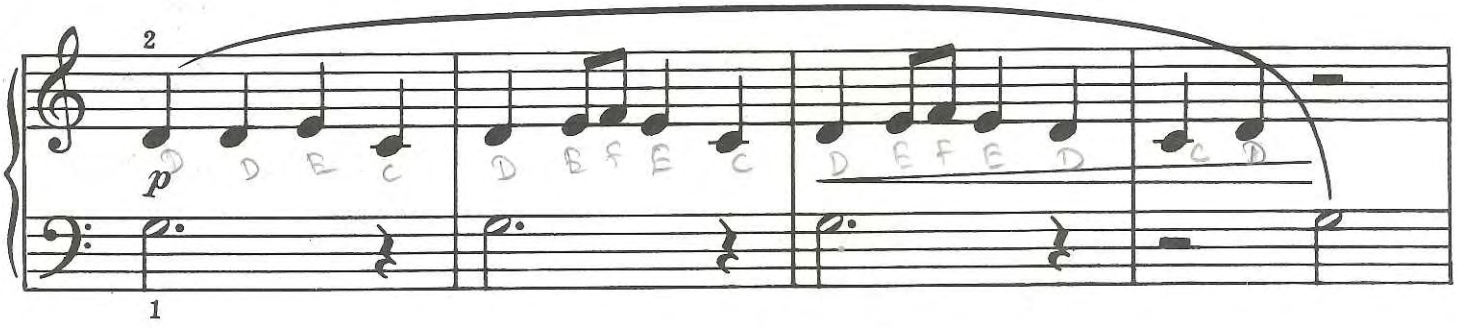


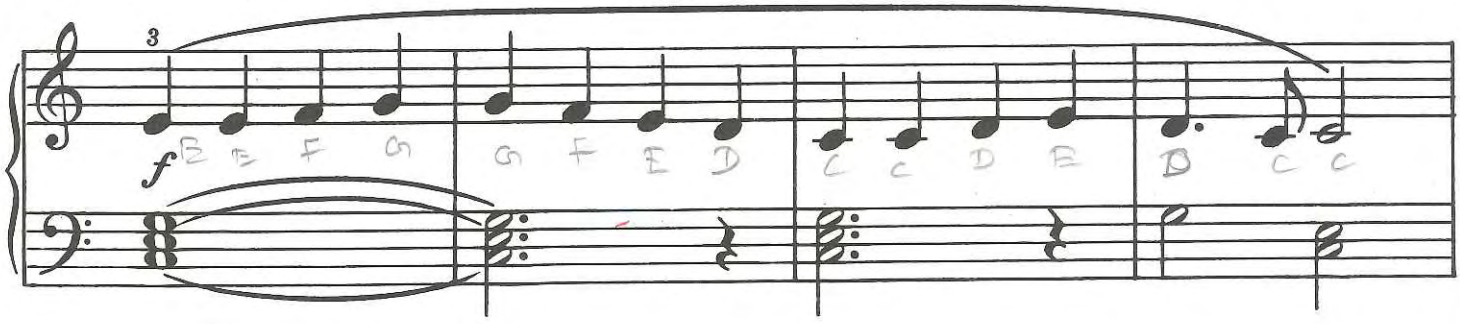
Ode to Joy

Theme from *Symphony No. 9*

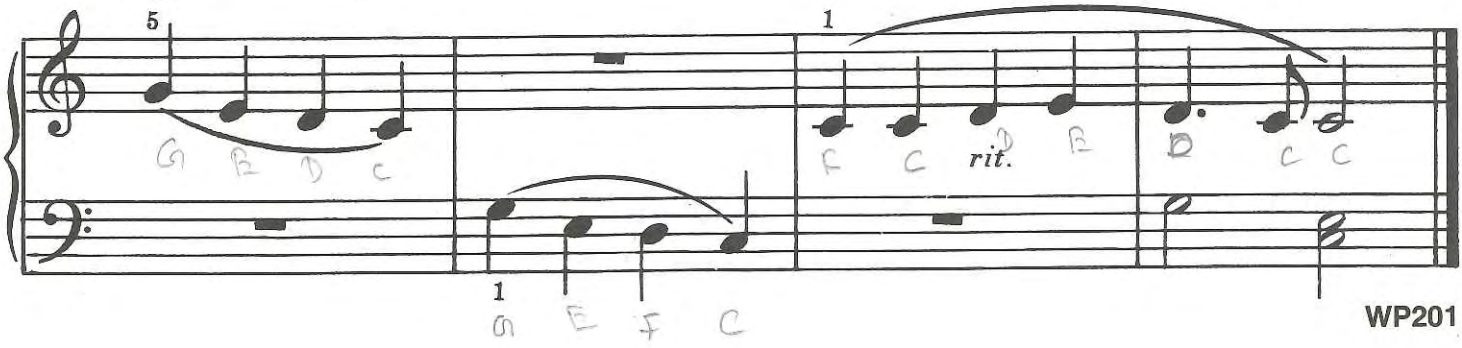
Moderato

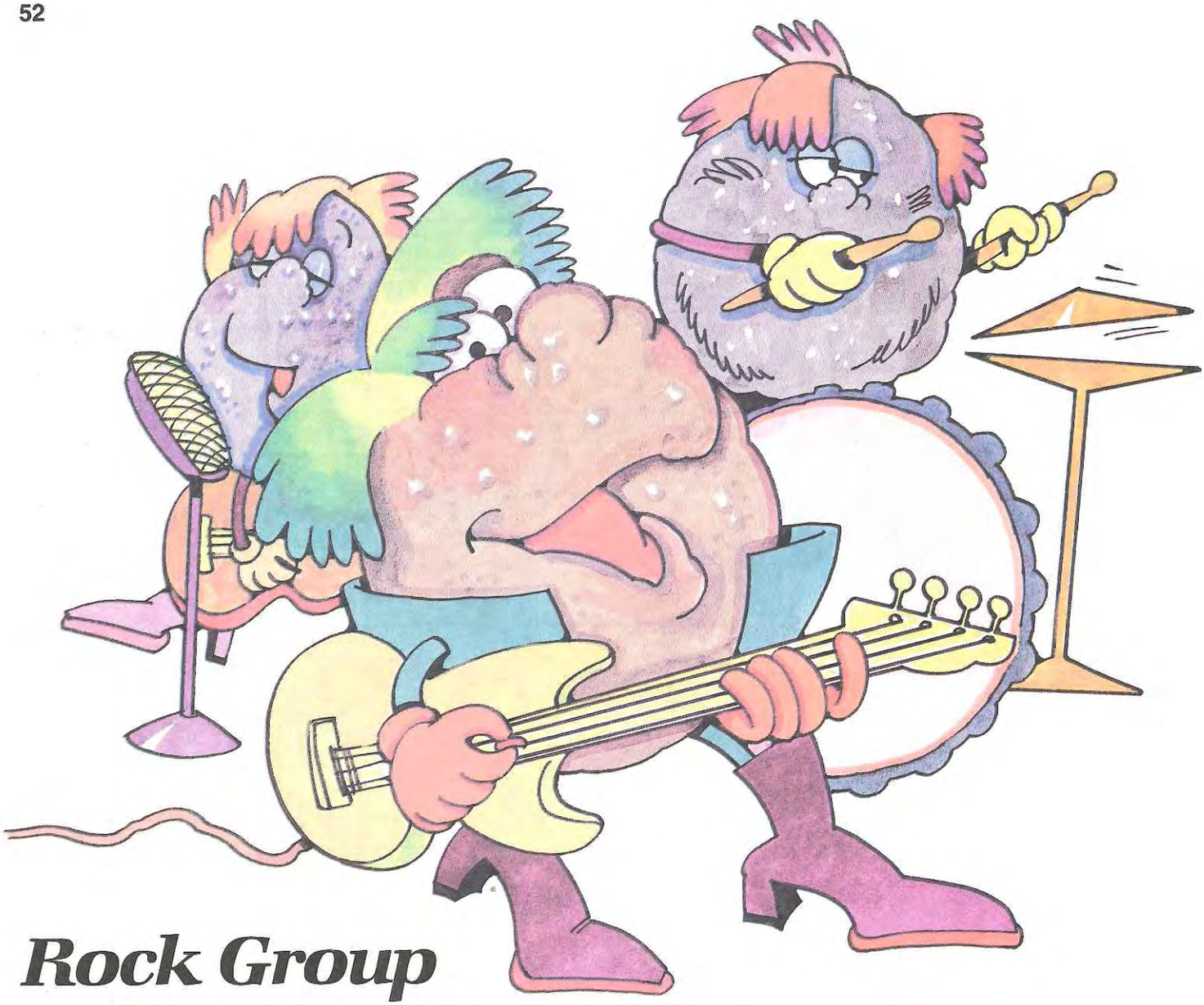






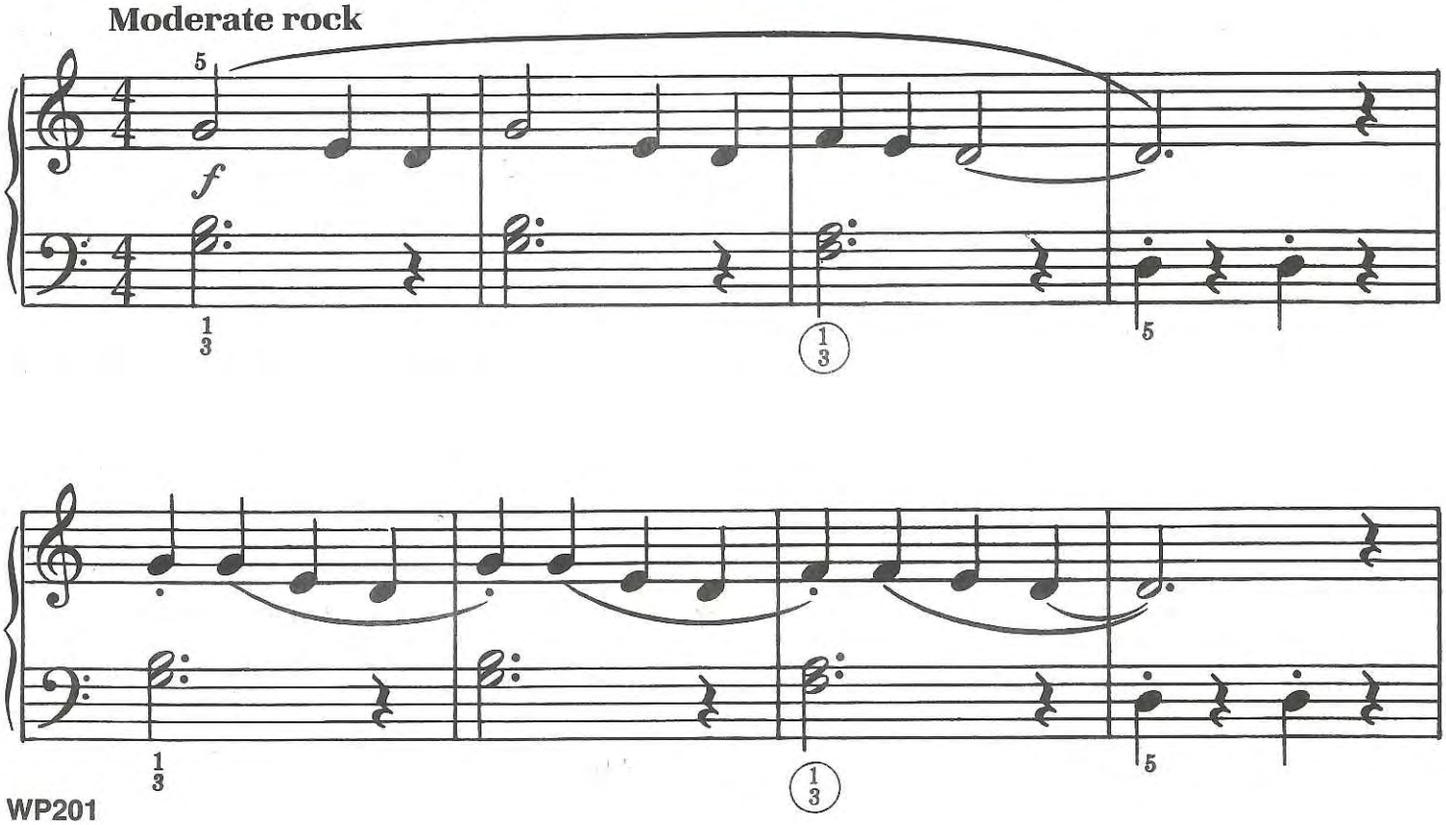
Ending

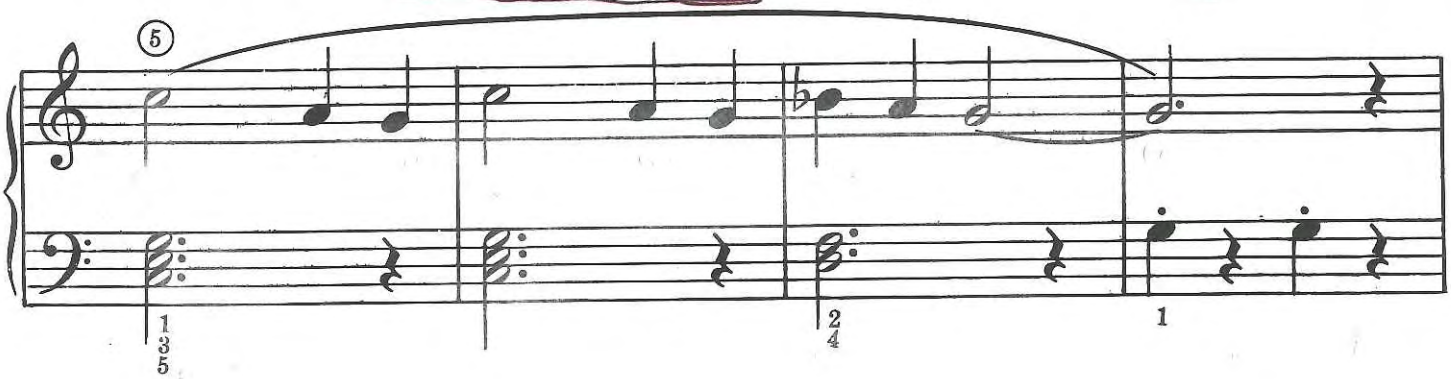


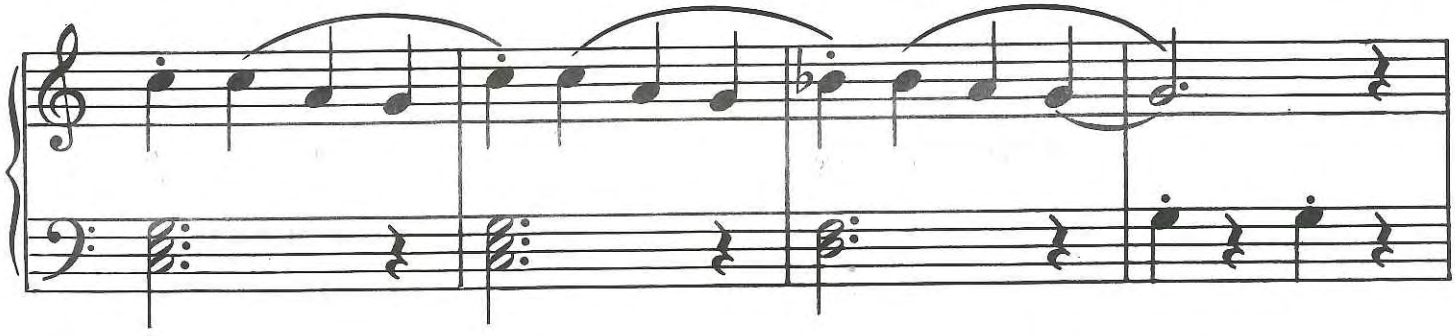


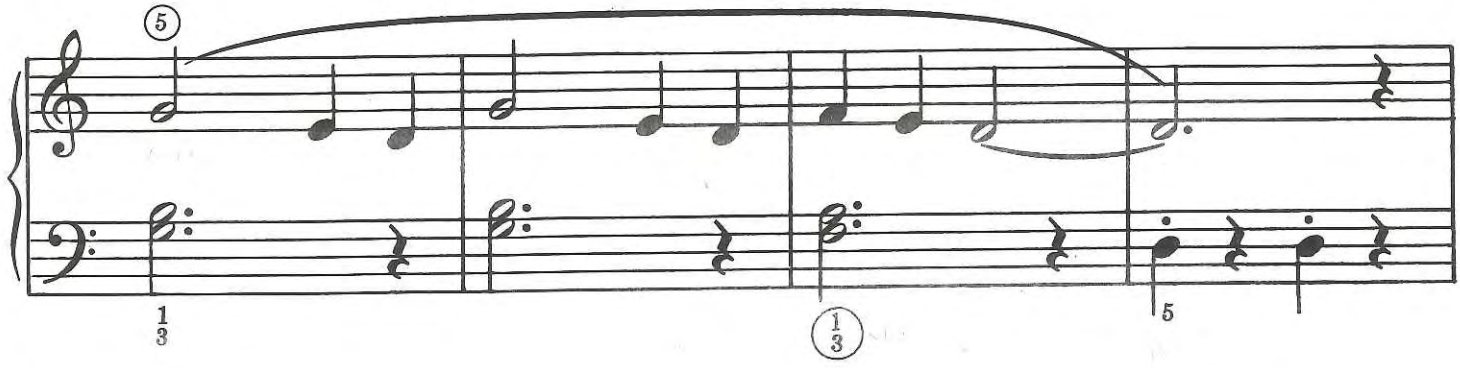
Rock Group

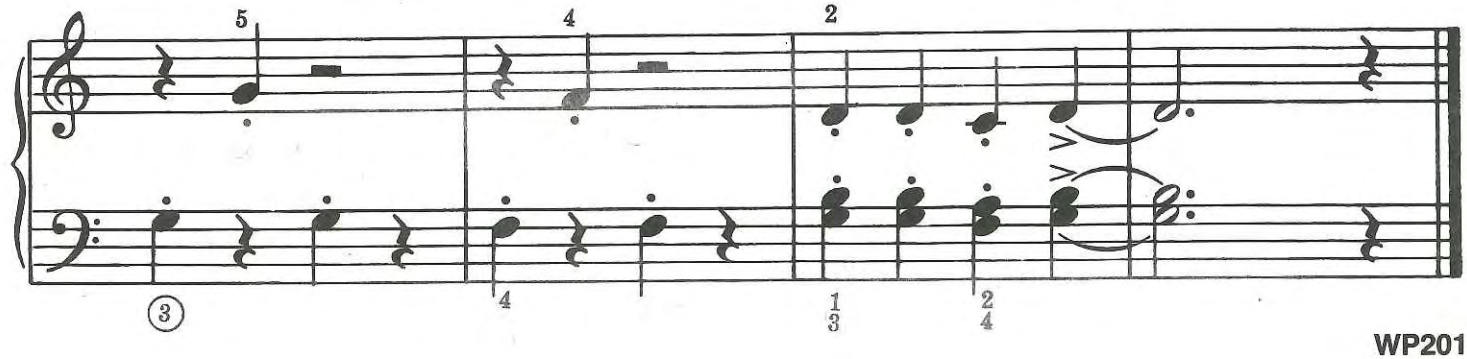
Moderate rock




5
1 3 5
2 4
1




5
1 3
1 3
5


5
4
2
3
4
1 3
2 4

Space Walk

Eerily

mf

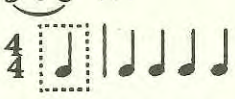
Fine

mp

D. C. al Fine

Music Dictionary

North York Public Library

TERM	SIGN or ABBREVIATION	MEANING
A Tempo		return to original speed
Accent Sign	>	play the note or notes louder
Allegretto		moderately fast
Allegro		fast
Andante		slowly (walking tempo)
Crescendo	*cresc.*	gradually play louder
Da Capo al Fine	*D.C. al Fine*	repeat from the beginning and play to the *Fine*
Diminuendo	*dim.*	gradually play softer
Dynamics		signs that indicate ranges of volume from soft to loud
Fine		the end
Flat Sign	♭	play the next key to the left
Form		the arrangement of notes and rhythms into patterns
Forte	*f*	loud
Largo		very slowly
Legato		smooth and connected tones, usually indicated by a slur
Mezzo Forte	*mf*	moderately loud
Mezzo Piano	*mp*	moderately soft
Moderato		moderately
Natural Sign	♮	cancels a sharp or flat
Octave Sign	*8va*	over notes: play one octave higher under notes: play one octave lower
Pedal Sign		press, hold, and lift the damper pedal
Phrase		a group of notes that form a musical thought
Piano	*p*	soft
Repeat Signs		repeat from the beginning
		repeat between the pairs of dots and double bar lines
Ritardando	*rit.*	gradually slow down
Sharp Sign	♯	play the next key to the right
Slur		indicates notes which are played legato
Staccato		short, disconnected tones
Tempo		rate of speed
Tie		connects notes of the same name for their combined value
Upbeat		a note (or notes) that comes before the first full measure